FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

21 NOVEMBER 1984

Libya

Moscow Talks, MIG's — Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, the Armed Forces commander in chief, began talks in Moscow with the chief of the Soviet General Staff and other Soviet military commanders, Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio announced. Meanwhile, the British Magazine *JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY* disclosed that the Soviet freighter *Bakuriani* unloaded MIG aircraft in Tripoli because of the U.S. outcry over the possible delivery of the aircraft to Nicaragua, AFP reported.

French Deadline on Chad — France is giving Libya "one or two weeks" to evacuate its remaining forces from northern Chad, according to Chadian Government sources cited by AFP following the French defense minister's recent visit to Ndjamena.

Abu Nidal in Tripoli — Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi received Abu Nidal, secretary of the Command Council of Fatah, the Revolutionary Council, JANA reported. The announcement followed recent reports that Abu Nidal, also known as Sabri al-Banna, had died in Baghdad.

Denial on Gandhi Assassination — A Foreign Liaison Bureau statement carried by JANA vehemently denied Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's charges of Libyan involvement in plans to assassinate the late Indian Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi.

PLO

Noting reports of a Syrian troop concentration on the border with Jordan, Fatah official Salah Khalaf declared in an interview with Kuwait's *AL-ANBA'* that sabotage attempts against the PNC session in Amman cannot be ruled out. Regarding the Soviet position on convening the PNC, Khalaf termed it "understanding," asserting that the USSR does not agree with Syria on the Palestinian issue. Meanwhile, PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir, in an Amman television interview, expressed the hope that the PNC session will create a stronger basis for a comprehensive meeting. The session will elect a new PLO Executive Committee, he stated, and the door will remain open to deal with other parties.

As for developments in the Democratic Alliance, the DFLP Central Committee issued a statement reported by Radio Monte Carlo affirming that it will not attend the PNC session and blaming the National Alliance for the "disastrous" Palestinian situation. Moreover, it announced its decision to freeze the DFLP-PFLP Joint Command although it will continue its relations with the PFLP under the Democratic Alliance. Despite Arab media reports of the departure for Moscow of DFLP and PFLP leaders George Habash and Nayif Hawatimah, monitored Soviet media have not been observed to mention their arrival or talks there.

In a separate development, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio announced that Palestinian "revolutionaries" were responsible for a recent attempt to assassinate Moshe Biton, the appointed Israeli mayor of Ramallah.

Lebanon

Al-Naqurah Talks — The Israeli-Lebanese military talks resumed early on 21 November, and the first item on the agenda was the deployment of UNIFIL in the areas to be evacuated by the IDF, Jerusalem radio reported. The Lebanese side stressed that Lebanon rejects Israeli threats to take unilateral action if the negotiations fail, while the Israelis warned the Lebanese that Israel will not accept procrastination in the talks.

Iran

Chinese Visit — PRC Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian will pay an official visit to Iran on November 23-26 to discuss bilateral relations and international issues, IRNA announced.

Iraqi Air Attack — Iraqi planes raided the suburbs of Andimeshk, a border town in Ilam Province, IRNA reported.

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Further Reportage on PNC Convocation

'Arafat Arrives, Makes Statement

JN210708 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 21 Nov 84 p 1

[Text] Amman — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Amman at 0330 today from Tunis to participate in the 17th PNC session in Amman tomorrow. He was received at the Amman airport by Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri and the Foreign Ministry Chief of Protocol Tariq Madi. Accompanying 'Arafat on this visit is Khalid al-Hasan, Fatah Central Committee member and head of the PNC Foreign Relations Committee.

In a statement on arrival at the airport, 'Arafat said: The convocation of the PNC session in Amman will have positive results on the level of the distinguished Palestinian-Jordanian relations. He said it is also an actual embodiment of the relations between the two peoples. He added: It is not a coincidence that the Palestinians are holding their council here among their kinfolk. 'Arafat said: This PNC session will have a great effect on the kinfolk in the occupied territories, who have expressed their happiness with and support for holding the PNC in Amman. 'Arafat thanked His Majesty King Husayn for hosting the PNC session in Amman.

King Husayn To Open Session

JN201209 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn will open the PNC's 17th session which will begin in Amman on Thursday. The king will deliver an important political speech on this pan-Arab occasion.

AL-WATAN Reports New Initiative

GF201540 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 19 Nov 84 p 1

[Article by Mahmud al-Rimawi]

[Text] *AL-WATAN* has learned that a new Palestinian initiative was drafted during the past 2 days to overcome the crisis of the PNC meeting in Amman on 22 November, and to contain its possible negative repercussions, in light of the insistence of the various parties within the PLO on their conflicting positions.

The new initiative is an extension and a consolidation of the initiative proposed by the PNC members based in Amman, who until 18 November numbered 43, and which called for the quick revival of the PLO institutions, the Palestine Central Council, and the PLO Executive Committee in preparation for convening the PNC. The new initiative, which has been drafted by a number of nationalist and independent Palestinian personalities and PNC members residing in Kuwait, has the following major points:

1. Due to the insistence of the PNC, the PLO Executive Committee chairman, and the Fatah Central Committee on convening the 17th session of the PNC in Amman on 22 November, and in the event a quorum is attained, the PNC will be held at the scheduled venue and date.

2. The agenda of the PNC meeting will be limited to opening the session and reading the financial report on the activities of the National Fund. The present PLO Executive Committee will be given a new mandate after the addition of a new member representing the Palestinian Communist Party.

3. The PNC meeting will be adjourned on the proviso that it will be reconvened to resume its session no longer than 2 months from the date of adjournment.

4. During the period, a plenum meeting of the PLO Central Council and the PLO Executive Committee will be called in order to resume the comprehensive national dialogue and to prepare for the resumption of the 17th session of the PNC.

5. The parties calling for convening of the PNC are urged to commit themselves publicly and in advance to all these proposals.

6. The Palestinian forces carrying on the struggle within the PLO framework are called upon to examine these proposals as soon as possible, in a spirit of national responsibility, with care to spare the PLO the imminent dangers of division to safeguard its unity and its anti-imperialist policy, and to declare a stand that adheres to these principles, that is committed to their political implementation, and that realizes the aim of preserving the PLO, as a united and uniting organization, under all conditions.

AL-WATAN has learned that the committee for the new initiative has begun contacts with the parties concerned and the results of these contacts will take shape within the next 48 hours.

Al-Surani Strongest Candidate To Head PNC

JN210742 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 21 Nov 84 p 1

[Text] Amman — It has been learned that Jamal al-Surani is one of the strongest candidates for the post of PNC speaker to replace Khalid al-Fahum, who refused to call for and participate in the 17th PNC session.

PLO Executive Committee To Reduce Members

JN210758 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 21 Nov 84 p 1

[Text] Amman — *SAWT AL-SHA'B* has learned that there is an intention to reduce the PLO Executive Committee to 8 or 9 members instead of the present 14 members.

Khalil al-Wazir Interviewed

JN202102 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Interview with Khalil al-Wazir, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, identified by his nom de guerre Abu Jihad, by Amman Television News Director Muhammad Amin in Amman on 20 November — recorded]

[Excerpts] [Muhammad Amin] Reports say that if you cannot achieve a quorum for the PNC session, you will appoint new members so that a quorum can be achieved.

[Khalil al-Wazir] We said yesterday, and today we again say that we are careful to observe the legal procedures to the letter. We are certain that the necessary quorom will attend because we trust the patriotism and sincerity of our people. Therefore, we are certain that our brother members will come and the quorum will be achieved. We also say that the door is open to everybody. There will be no obstacles, no hinderances regarding their opinion and their decisions. This is a very clear issue.

[Amin] A few days ago, a senior Fatah official, Abu Iyad, [Salah Khalaf] said that if the PNC is not held, Fatah will withdraw from the PLO.

[Al-Wazir] We shoulder our responsibility to convene the PNC so that it may sense the challenges that we face from our enemy, see the challenges facing the PLO on the international level and the Arab circumstances that surround our PLO. We are certain that our people will participate in this session. However, we will follow the logical organizational procedures. If there is no response, we have the right to tell our people that we have a choice. We should ask them: Why is this siege around the PLO; why the obstacles to prevent holding the PNC? So it is better to tell our people we cannot lead them to the shore of safety within the PLO. Therefore, questions may arise. We may tell our people: We will withdraw from the PLO. We may say, well, let us return to the Arab League and say: Here, this is the trust we took from you. However, we are certain that our people support the PLO.

[Amin] There have been rapid developments over the past 24 hours. As we meet now, reports say that Habash met with Al-Asad yesterday and left for Moscow today. Bassam Abu Sharif [PFLP spokesman] made a statement in which he said the next 24 hours may witness developments that may affect holding the PNC. What are your views? Is it possible to postpone the PNC?

[Al-Wazir] The PNC will be held and it has nearly started because most of the members and delegations have arrived and the rest are enroute. Issues are proceeding normally. There is no change. We are certain that the PNC will meet according to schedule. As for the events within the coming hours, we say we welcome any step. We have not even stopped the comprehensive national dialogue. Everyone is welcome. The PNC is the background for this dialogue. Let everybody come. They have guarantees. Even after the PNC, the dialogue will not end between us and our brothers. We are concerned with restoring the PLO fabric. We welcome any new development in terms of strengthening this meeting or in terms of continuing the dialogue after the PNC in a brotherly manner. We have affirmed our people's unity and our national unity. Let no one think that the world will come to an end and the horizon will turn dark if some organization or others announce something. We believe that the revolution is safe. We hope that the PNC will lay a stronger basis for a comprehensive meeting.

[Amin] Suppose the PNC met with the necessary quorum. Will the PNC elect an executive committee in order to come out of the impasse?

[Al-Wazir] Yes.

[Amin] Will certain persons, who will not attend the session, be dropped from the committee?

[Al-Wazir] The PNC is its own master. The usual procedure is that if the PNC meets with a full quorum, then it will make all useful decisions. Therefore, when the PNC is held with the necessary quorum, it will elect a new executive committee that will be a new leadership for the next stage. As for the other parties, this issue will be dealt with in the next stage. The door will remain open to deal with them. We say that this is a step, and then after that a PNC may be held that will bolster our national unity.

AL-ANBA' Interviews Abu Iyad

GF191710 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 19 Nov 84 pp 8, 9

[Interview with Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, member of the Fatah Central Committee, with *AL-ANBA'* correspondents 'Ahdi al-Marzuq, 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rayyis, Nasir al-Din al-Nashashibi, Muhammad Khalid Qatmah, and Yahya Hamzah at *AL-ANBA'* headquarters in Kuwait — date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] How true is the Iranian president's request to the Algerian president to refuse to host the PNC?

[Abu Iyad] Al-Asad is the one who asked President Bendjedid to do this, but Algeria said that the reason for refusing to host the PNC was not in response to Al-Asad's request.

[Question] This week and the following weeeks will be decisive ones regarding the Palestinian situation. What did the PLO executive meeting accomplish yesterday? In your view what will happen this week until the PNC's convocation on Thursday and what is the expected scenario of the events during the phase to follow the PNC session?

[Abu Iyad] I will answer briefly. The PLO Executive Committee did not have the necessary quorum as usual and this has been the case for 10 months. This is caused by those who signed the Amman statement and who called for the convocation of the PLO Executive Committee and the central council before the PNC session. The attempts to further hinder the convocation will resume in the days preceding the PNC. I do not rule out that sabotage attempts against the venue of the conference will take place, even if they are just demonstrations. Yesterday, I heard that there is a Syrian concentration of troops on the Jordanian border, in addition to the media attacks which we will ignore regarding the PNC. After the PNC, we will have many issues to face, such as the situation in the occupied territories, relations with Jordan, the issue of Egypt, the Iraqi-Iranian war, our people in Lebanon, the one-sided Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon and possible sectarian threats, and the threats against the Palestinian camps in Lebanon. Therefore, after the PNC session we will forget the issue of the PLO Executive Committee and we will be concerned about the important issues which our people and revolution are facing. We will face a U.S. initiative and have information on some of its positions and will discuss the means to face it. Thus, these issues will be the focus of our agenda in the forthcoming phase. We must have a strong executive committee which will be capable of facing this phase.

Also, there is a significant point facing us which is the rejuvenation of the revolution. The revolution organs have become somewhat stagnant. We will unfreeze them and renew our work. Some elements will be in charge of organizational issues and others will be in charge of other issues such as armed actions inside the occupied territories and the treatment of the instability in some Palestinian and Arab stances.

[Question] What if another PLO is proclaimed in Damascus?

[Abu Iyad] I will say one thing. This is a joke because we have one of two possibilities: One either uses the language of law and order or the language of revolution. If the PNC is convened in Amman with a full quorum, then this will be the PNC. Any claim for another PNC will be a forgery and there is no one who is more skillful at forgery than the Syrian regime. Our people have not known falsification.

We are sure that the Syrian regime does not dare to carry out any falsification connected with the PNC. If it does, then it will be taken to task by the Palestinian people. When we supported Yasir 'Arafat it was not because Yasir 'Arafat is an angel and has not made mistakes. We held on to him for one reason, namely, that if we were to allow a precedent that any Arab ruler has the right to influence, or choose the PLO chairman and the leader of the revolution, then it is better for us to hand our affairs to Hafiz al-Asad and let him then run the affairs of the Palestinian people. We have turned over the cause to him for 14 years and the cause has not benefited. This cannot be accepted.

[Question] We have talked about everything except the position of the great power which supports the Palestinian cause and Syria at the same time. What is the position of the Soviets now regarding Syrian-Palestinian differences? What is their position regarding the convening of the PNC in Amman? Is there pressure from the USSR or a promise to end the Syrian-Palestinian dispute because that is a strategic matter?

[Abu Iyad] A little while ago you discussed the prolonged time spent on the dialogue between the Palestinian factions. The fact is that this extended time was of benefit to us in regard to the USSR. Moscow felt that we had been patient a long time. Two months ago the USSR was telling us: Do not rush to convene the PNC; give a chance to talk with both the Palestinian and Syrian fronts. However, after we had exhausted all attempts for dialogue, the USSR has fallen silent, neither telling us to convene the PNC nor to refrain from convening it.

Frankly, we are not asking the USSR to tell us whether to convene the PNC or not. The position of the USSR regarding the question of convening the PNC is an understanding position. Certainly the USSR is in agreement with Syria on bilateral relations, but on the Palestinian issue it is not in agreement with Syria. The USSR is also not in agreement with Syria on the Jordanian and Iraqi issues. However bilateral relations between the two are close and the USSR supports Syria and extends aid to it. With regard to the convening of the PNC in Amman, the USSR does not have the hangups of those who have no self-confidence. We are astonished at some people who say: Why Amman? My brother, I support the venue and not vice versa.

Qaddumi Issues Statement

GF201710 Sanaa VOP in Arabic 1600 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the PLO political department, has made the following statement: In response to the desire of some PNC brother members and out of the concern to respond to every sincere call to preserve national unity, Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has called for a meeting by the PLO Executive Committee with all its members including the brothers in Damascus and for the PNC speaker to attend this meeting. One topic was placed on the agenda of this meeting: to discuss the current Palestinian situation, including the PNC meeting. However, this sincere desire to rejuvenate the PLO institutions, particularly the Executive Committee and to remove the PLO and its institutions from their stagnant state was rejected by the brothers in Damascus, just as with previous calls for national unity.

The lack of response to this call by these brothers and their absence at the meeting once again affirms the continuation of the division and the continuation of their policy which strikes at the PLO and its legitimate institutions. In the face of this stand, the Palestinian leadership, which bears the trust of the responsibility of struggle before its people, cannot remain bound to the continuation of this destructive policy of the PLO. The criticism of the PLO is destructive to the struggle heritage of our people over the past 20 years with the blood of many thousands of martyrs, wounded, and detainees and this is something which we cannot permit.

With the support of our people and their rallying around the PLO and its establishments, under their legitimate leadership, we will defend the PLO and will protect it and safeguard independent Palestinian decisionmaking. Out of this, we will resume our efforts to hold the PNC session as scheduled, calling upon everyone to put the supreme interest of our people above any other interest and to attend the meetings of our council which is the normal and legitimate place where we can settle our issues, adopt our fateful issues and safeguard our establishments and the gains of our people.

Democratic Alliance Member on Al-Asad Talks

LD211021 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0755 GMT 21 Nov 84

[Text] Moscow, 21 Nov (KUNA) — Taysir Qub'ah, member of the Palestinian Democratic Alliance, today called for a halt to all measures seeking to convene the PNC in Amman tomorrow. He described the meeting of President Hafiz al-Asad of Syria, Chairman of the PNC Khalid al-Fahhum, and Secretary General of the PFLP Dr George Habash as extremely positive.

Qub'ah, who is now in Moscow, told KUNA that there was an agreement during this encounter on the importance of a comprehensive dialogue among all Palestinian factions. He said President al-Asad stated Syria could contribute with all its capabilities and relations to persuade all Palestinian factions on the need and importance of this dialogue, which shows his anxiety about PLO unity. He stressed that President al-Asad affirmed he never set

the condition that Damascus had to be the center of the dialogue, and that he would not object at all if it were held in Algiers, Aden or Tripoli. The Palestinian Democratic Alliance is composed of the PFLP, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the Palestinian Communist Party, and the Palestinian Liberation Front.

DFLP Not To Participate

JN201838 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] The Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] met in Damascus today and decided not to participate in the PNC's 17th session in Amman. The committee issued a statement saying that the DFLP's Central Committee held an emergency meeting today to discuss the serious situation which is a result of convening the PNC's 17th session in Amman. It said that the meeting highlighted the serious political consequences of this step, particularly in view of the fact that it comes following Jordan's restoration of ties with Egypt and the subsequent establishment of a Jordanian-Egytpian axis that openly works for a Palestinian settlement on the basis of the Reagan plan. The DFLP Central Committee affirmed the following:

1. The National Alliance parties bear primary responsibility in pushing the Palestinian situation to this disasterous situation.
2. The Fatah Central Committee made a hasty, separate, and unilateral decision by calling for holding the PNC session in Amman despite the serious political significance and results that this measure implies.
3. The PFLP did not take the positive stand required by the critical circumstances — a stand which would have led to finding a way out of the impasse. The PFLP dissociated itself from its commitment to the Aden-Algiers agreement's provision concerning holding the PNC as soon as possible.

The DFLP Central Committee decided the following:

1. To refrain from attending the 17th PNC session in Amman.
2. To continue to struggle in defense of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, preventing the division of the Palestinian legitimacy, and rejecting any attempt to establish any alternative or parallel PLO regardless of the forms and names it may adopt.
3. To continue dialogue and joint action in all circumstances with the Fatah Central Committee and the various national forces and groups.
4. To freeze the DFLP-PFLP Joint Command until it is possible to evaluate its experiment. The DFLP will continue its alliance with the PFLP within the Democratic Alliance.

Habash on PLO Crisis

JN202005 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Damascus — In a statement he made today before leaving Damascus for Moscow at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, Dr George Habash said intensive consultations are being held with allies of the Palestinian revolution in order to find ways to end the exacerbated crisis in the PLO. In his statement, Dr Habash called on all PNC members not to attend the divisive council in Amman in view of the dangerous political implications of its date and venue. Dr Habash reiterated the PFLP's concern for and commitment to continuing efforts to begin a comprehensive national dialogue in preparation for the convocation of the PNC's 17th session.

Answering a question about his talks with President Hafiz al-Asad yesterday, Dr Habash said: We discussed ways to save the PLO from a crisis resulting from the insistence of 'Arafat and his Central Committee to unilaterally hold the homogeneous PNC in Amman.

No Soviet Delegation To Attend

LD210747 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0729 GMT 21 Nov 84

[Text] Moscow, 21 Nov (KUNA) — Nayif Hawatimah, the leader of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, has disclosed that the Soviet Union will not be sending a delegation to attend the meetings of the Palestine National Council to be held in the Jordanian capital Amman tomorrow. He also expects "a surprise" to occur several hours before its opening. He stressed that his organization will not attend the meeting of the council and has accused Fatah of unilaterally violating the Aden-Algiers agreement.

Iraqi Delegation Arrives

JN201723 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1612 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Amman, 20 Nov (INA) — Na'im Haddad, member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command and head of the party's delegation to the meetings of the 17th PNC session to be held in Amman on Thursday, arrived here this evening.

In a statement to the INA correspondent upon his arrival, Na'im Haddad said: Convening the PNC at this time is important in order to confront the Zionist conspiracy and the plot of the Syrian and Libyan regimes against the PLO's military existence. The conspiracies continue to destroy the PLO's political role as the sole legitimate representative of the Arab Palestinian people.

He added: Thus, convening this council in Jordan is significant, because it confronts the conspiracies against the existence of the PLO as the leader of the Arab Palestinian people and their struggle to achieve their legitimate rights. The conspiracies are also aimed at fragmenting the PLO's unity which embodies the Palestinian people's unity.

Na'im Haddad added: We came, because the PNC session is legitimate and the PLO leadership is legitimate. The Palestinian people, through their struggle, realize which is the legitimate leadership that represents them.

Moroccan Delegation Arrives

LD202222 Rabat MAP in Arabic 0900 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Rabat, 20 Nov, MAP: A delegation of PNC members residing in Morocco left for Amman yesterday to take part in the council's meetings due to open Thursday in the Jordanian capital. Palestinian sources in Rabat said the delegation included Wajih Hasan Qasim [Abu Marwan], director of the PLO office in Morocco; Yunis Sharif, an independent; and Muhammad Sufyan, an observer member from the teachers union.

Khalaf, Others Arrive

JN210757 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 21 Nov 84 pp 1, 20

[Text] Amman — *AL-DUSTUR* — Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, and Jamal al-Surani arrived in Amman yesterday to attend the 17th PNC session. The PNC members in Kuwait, Abu Dhabi, and Egypt as well as the Palestinian workers delegation, the Palestinian students delegation, and the Latin American delegation have also arrived. Ahmad Sidqi al-Dajani, Hani al-Hasan, Hamid Abu Sittah, and the PNC members in the United States, including Professor Edward Sa'id, will arrive today.

Palestinian Front To Attend

JN201156 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1110 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Nov (INA) — The Palestinian Liberation Front has announced it will participate in the 17th PNC session, scheduled to open in Amman the day after tomorrow, Thursday. In a statement INA received today, the front's Political Bureau stressed that the decision to participate in the council's meetings aims at defending the PLO in its capacity as the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative. It indicated that the Palestinian Liberation Front is well aware of the political dangers and the amount of harm inflicted on the Palestinian people and their national cause as a result of some Arab regimes' flagrant conspiratorial interferences. The Political Bureau described the convocation of the 17th PNC session as a victory for the Palestinian people's will under their national leadership. It concluded by calling on all strugglers for the Palestinian people's repatriation, liberation, and national independence to attend and to work for the success of the session, which some Arab regimes are trying to foil.

No Plans for Parallel PNC in Damascus

GF201300 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 20 Nov 84 p 1

[Text] A responsible Palestinian source in the Palestinian National Alliance called *AL-WATAN* on 19 November and affirmed that the Palestinian National Alliance does not have the least intention of convening a PNC in Damascus. The source said that the Palestinian National Alliance is careful not to split the PLO into two organizations.

During the past 2 days there have been reports that the Palestinian National Alliance will convene a parallel PNC, concurrent to the PNC meeting scheduled to be held in Amman.

PLO Claims Attack on Israeli Ramallah Mayor

JN201702 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1614 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Our heroic revolutionaries operating inside the occupied homeland continue to escalate their armed operations against the Zionist occupation forces' personnel and equipment in accordance with the revolution command's instructions and decisions to escalate armed struggle inside the occupied homeland — the main conflict arena.

A group of our revolutionaries yesterday attacked with hand grenades the vehicle of Zionist terrorist Moshe Biton, acting mayor of Ramallah.

All those on the vehicle were either killed or wounded. Another group of our revolutionaries attacked with hand grenades a Zionist military vehicle which was passing through Qabatiyah in the occupied town of Janin.

Several Zionist soldiers were either killed or wounded.

A Zionist military spokesman admitted both operations, but did not disclose his losses.

He said that his forces immediately carried out large-scale search operations and detained a large number of Palestinian citizens on the pretext of their being involved in both operations.

GULF AFFAIRS

Reportage on GCC Foreign Ministers Meetings

Prince al-Faysal Arrives

LD202124 Riyadh SPA in English 1232 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 20 SPA -- Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Al Sa'ud al-Faysal arrived here this morning to take part in the foreign minister's meeting of the six-nation GCC due to start later today. He was greeted by Kuwaiti Deputy Premier and Foreign and Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah, Omani Foreign Affairs Minister Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah, GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Bisharah, and high-ranking officials. Prince Al Sa'ud is accompanied by 'Abd al-Rahman al-Mansur, under secretary for political affairs at the Foreign Ministry and senior officials of the ministry. On his arrival Prince Al Sa'ud expressed pleasure in attending the meeting to prepare for the forthcoming GCC summit due to take place in Kuwait on November 27. He expressed optimism over the summit's success in achieving its targets for the benefit of the Gulf, Arab, and Islamic people.

The summit will review several subjects on the agenda, which had been prepared well in advance and that it will adopt positive recommendations on them.

First Session Ends

LD202120 Riyadh SPA in English 1254 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Kuwait, Nov 20, SPA — Foreign ministers of the six-nation GCC concluded a first session here today by agreeing to set up a legal committee to study legislative aspects of the ministerial council's agenda. They are expected to resume their deliberations later in the night.

Talks Resume

LD211029 Kuwait KUNA in English 0842 GMT 21 Nov 84

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 21 (KUNA) — Foreign ministers of the six GCC member states began a third round of meetings Wednesday to prepare for next week's summit council of heads of state. The meeting convened at 11:30 local time at the Hyatt Regency conference center to resume discussions which lasted more than nine hours Tuesday and went on late into the evening. The ministerial council is scheduled to discuss political issues, including Gulf and Arab developments after reviewing economic and defense matters Tuesday. Wednesday's meeting began with all delegation members of the six countries attending, after side-talks in the morning restricted to ministers.

Gulf States To Attempt Iran-Iraq Reconciliation

GF210451 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 21 Nov 84 p 1

[Excerpt] Gulf states are to undertake a vigorous new bid to reconcile Iran and Iraq, GCC foreign ministers were told in Kuwait yesterday. Kuwaiti Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir said the Gulf War was the first priority of their organisation. Shaykh Sabah said the GCC had to explore every available means of reaching a settlement formula acceptable to both sides in the conflict. Informed sources later said the GCC initiative could start immediately after the foreign ministers' meeting so a preliminary report might be drawn up ready for the GCC summit in Kuwait on Tuesday. Shaykh Sabah stressed the "dangers" facing Gulf states because of the "tanker war" being waged by Iraq and Iran on each other's oil traffic and by the threats to close the vital Strait of Hormuz.

BAHRAIN

Foreign Minister Interviewed on GCC, Gulf War

GF201302 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0720 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Kuwait, 20 Nov (WAKH) — Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah has asserted that the GCC has laid the foundation for collective and joint work in political, economic, and military fields. He said that the GCC has succeeded in acquiring respect in the world. It has embodied the slogan that the Gulf has the responsibility of its countries and converted this slogan into a de facto situation. He indicated that the GCC has formulated plans and programs toward the establishment of a unified Gulf force.

In a statement to the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-ANBA'* published today, he pointed out that the GCC countries have a considerable naval and air force strength. He denied any basic differences in the security agreement. He said: Kuwait protested an article on the handing over of criminals. The differences in views among the GCC countries on the issues discussed is the key to joint action. He added that these differences can exist and still have progress. He continued that there will be differences in views regarding the economic and security agreement, but we will overcome them with wisdom.

The Bahraini foreign minister denied that there are foreign bases on any of the GCC countries. He said that there is cooperation with the United States and other superpowers. This cooperation falls within the framework of national interests. He indicated that the policy adopted by the GCC countries in dealing with the superpowers has so far preserved the region's security and stability.

Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah asserted that there is no contradiction among the policies of the GCC countries but that there are differences. He pointed out that some legal and political issues in addition to the economic agreement will be discussed during the GCC summit in Kuwait.

On the issues pertaining to GCC citizens — either economic or social — he said that these things will find solutions through the channels that have been available. He also called for the ending of the Iraqi-Iranian war, even if this were to be in stages. He said that the GCC countries are acting (?firmly) toward neutralizing the ports and the installations as a whole including the Iraqi ports.

On the efforts to neutralize the United States and the Soviet Union to block weapons supplies to either side, the Bahraini foreign minister said: We cannot compare the positions of Iraq with those of Iran. The halting of weapons supplies is a Japanese plan. This plan was suspended. Yet Iraq accepted all the resolutions of the UN Security Council and of the international community. Pressure should be put on the side that refuses to hold negotiations, no matter how it is. Pressure should also be imposed on the side that refuses to implement international norms. He said: We hope to arrange to have the world countries intercede with Iran to accept a cease-fire, to start negotiations and to neutralize the ports regarded as important for the peace process.

Answering a question as to whether there is an Iranian danger on Bahrain, he said: We feel the danger of the war. We always hope that we will have good relations with Iran and we will deal with it in accordance with good-neighborly relations. Iran has to be committed to good-neighborly relations. Our contacts with Iran are within the framework that serve the two countries. The Bahraini foreign minister hoped that the war will not be converted into a war of attrition for the region. He said: We are ready any moment and anywhere to help end this war.

On the issue of the restoration of Egypt to the Arab ranks, he said: The issue of the exclusion of Egypt is a political matter to be solved at the highest levels. Egypt's departure from the Arab ranks weakened Arab ranks. It must return, but in a form compatible with the Arab positions.

Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah called for the elimination of Arab differences and for finding a homogenous Arab solution to the current Arab issues.

On U.S. President Reagan's election victory, he said: With regard to President Reagan's victory we believe that the U.S. policy in the Middle East is fixed. But the difference between a new administration and a re-elected one is that the current administration began a direct dialogue with most of the Arab leaders and has contacts with them. As for the issue, this administration is better than a new one.

On differences in the Palestinian arena, he said that the Palestinians do not shoulder the responsibility alone. The Arabs also share in shouldering this responsibility. The time for selection has come, and the PLO has to choose a leadership capable of confronting this tempest. If the Arab disintegration is accompanied by a Palestinian disintegration, then our cause is finished.

Gulf War Blamed for Offshore Banking Decrease

GF210444 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 21 Nov 84 pp 1,2

[Text] Bahrain's offshore banking assets fell by $1.66 billion in September and moneymen's fears about the continuing Gulf war were mainly to blame. Banking sources in Bahrain said offshore investors were now looking to other more politically stable regions.

Another factor behind the fall in assets — which represents just under 3 percent of the $59.18 billion total — was fluctuating international interest rates, according to the sources. A Bahrain banker said the Gulf War was one of the major factors behind the decline. "More and more banks in Europe and the States are having second thoughts about placing large amounts of money in the Gulf," he said. "Although it looks like a lot of money, it is only a reduction of just under 3 percent and I don't think it will have any dramatic impact on Bahrain."

But he added that what would be of concern to the [Bahrain] Monetary Agency [BMA] would be that since March's record assets of $63.47 billion, there has been an overall reduction of 7 1/4 percent. "Obviously as far as Bahrain is concerned, it wants to keep the figure as high as possible, as that indicates confidence in the market," said the banker. The figures for December last year saw the 77 OBUS' [Offshore Banking Units] assets rise from $59.3 billion to $62.7 billion. "The BMA will be looking for this to happen again," the banker added. "They'll want to see the last quarter of '84 halt any downward trend." Assets held in U.S. dollars declined to 44.8 billion in September from 45.87 billion in August, while those held in regional currencies also fell from 10.22 billion to 9.79 billion. On the liabilities side, the dollar's share was 41.12 billion, down from 42.03 billion in August, while the share of regional currencies fell to 13.64 billion dollars from 14.22 billion. Liabilities due to Arab countries fell to $38.43 billion from $39.17 billion, while those due to Western European countries slipped to $13.27 billion from $13.93 billion.

Interior Minister Confers With Iraqi Counterpart

JN201349 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1242 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Kuwait, 20 Nov (INA) — Sa'dun Shakir, RCC member and interior minister, arrived in Kuwait this morning. He was received by Kuwaiti Interior Minister Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad al-Jabir. The two ministers held a meeting in which they discussed fraternal bilateral relations and the two countries' cooperation in the various fields.

KUWAIT

Amir Receives PLO's Salah Khalaf

GF201520 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 19 Nov 84 p 1

[Text] Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah yesterday received Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf [Abu Iyad] who stated that he had briefed the amir on the latest Palestinian developments, especially the convening of the PNC scheduled to be held in Amman on Thursday. Abu Iyad had met with the Soviet ambassador to Kuwait yesterday. He said: The Soviet Union understands our stance on the PNC well.

Crown Prince Visits Northern Border Posts, Islands

GF191648 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 18 Nov 84 p 1

[Text] Kuwaiti Prime Minister and Crown Prince Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Sabah, yesterday visited Army camps and border posts in the northern part of the country. The familiarization tour

included the islands of Warbah and Budiyan, and the Al-Qasir region. *AL-QABAS* has learned that this tour was scheduled for a date before the prime minister's visit to Baghdad. However, it was postponed for specific reasons and because of special circumstances.

In this tour, the prime minister was accompanied by the ministers of defense, interior, oil, finance, health, and planning as well as 'Abd al-Latif al-Bahr, director of the Prime Minister's Office. The prime minister was received by Army Chief of Staff Major General 'Abdallah Farraj al-Ghanim, Director of the Administration of Military Establishments Sabah Nasir al-Sa'ud, and a number of Army personnel.

AL-WATAN: Stop Investing in Western Banks

GF161914 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 15 Nov 84 p 17

["Toward a Liberated Economy" column by "an economic observer": "How To Protect the Wealth of Our Peoples"]

[Text] What is surprising is that the petroleum countries, particularly the Arab Gulf states, continue to pump their money into American and European banks and increase the number of their projects and investments in Western countries, although they should not forget the fate of the Iranian money, which the American monopolies seized when Tehran tried to withdraw its assets from American banks.

The call for withdrawing Gulf assets from Western markets may not look logical or sensible, taking into consideration the Iranian experience. But what is actually illogical and insensible is for this money and these investments to be left to multiply in these countries, because as soon as this money enters the circle of the capitals of these monopolizing companies, it becomes part of their possessions and determining its course and future becomes the sole right of these companies. The owner countries will thereafter be unable to have any control over their money, they will not be able to do what they want with it, except very little and in a manner that does not contradict with the interests of these companies, which will rob the money openly and directly if they are unable to continue robbing them covertly.

Thus, what is required is to stop pumping additional money into Western markets — although this contradicts with the currently predominant inclination — and consequently to employ this money in the local development plans of the countries concerned themselves, or in the Arab states. Many projects are needed by our nation, and there are many opportunities open for capital investment in our Arab countries. So will such a call be responded to by our governments, particularly after it has clearly appeared that the talk about a guaranteed political and economic stability in the Western capitalist states is nothing but prattle; or do the founders of the stability theory have any explanation for the successive economic crises in these states, the influence of which on the economies of our countries and on the life of our peoples is felt day by day?

SAUDI ARABIA

Statement Issued on Italian Prime Minister's Visit

LD210048 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1810 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Excerpts] Riyadh, 20 Nov (SPA) — A press statement was issued this evening on the visit by Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi to the Kingdom during the period 26 to 27 Safar, 1405 of the Hejira, equivalent to 19-20 November 1984. Here is the text of the statement:

At the invitation of His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, king of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Mr Bettino Craxi, the prime minister of the Italy made an official visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia during the period 26-27 Safar 1405 of the hejira, equivalent to 19-20 November 1984. His excellency was accompanied by Mr Giulio Andreotti, minister of foreign affairs.

The honorable guest had brief talks with His Majesty King Fahd. Participating on the Saudi side were: His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Sa'ud, crown prince, deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard; His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Saud, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation and inspector general; Mr Muhammad Aba al-Khayl, minister of finance and national economy; engineer 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Zamil, minister of industry and electricity; Mr Khalid al-Nasir al-Turki, his majesty's ambassador to Rome, and Ambassador Ma'mun al-Qabbani, head of the Western Department at the Foreign Ministry.

Participating on the Italian side were: Mr Marcello Salimei, the Italian ambassador to the Kingdom; Prof (Gennaro Accofifa), political adviser to the Italian prime minister; Minister Plenipotentiary (Valerio Berjant Colna), assistant director general for economic affairs at the Foreign Ministry; Camelio Leto Liotta, political adviser at the Foreign Ministry; (Leonardo Visconti da Moroni) deputy political adviser to the prime minister.

These talks included the bilateral relations between the two friendly countries, a comprehensive review of the international situation and the situation in the Middle East in particular. Concerning the Saudi-Italian relations, the two sides expressed their full satisfaction at the development of these relations and decided to work towards their consolidation in the various fields of interest to their countries and peoples. They also stressed the importance of the continuation of the existing consultations and cooperation between their governments in their joint interests.

As for the situation in the Middle East, the views of both sides agreed on the urgent need for finding a just, permanent, and comprehensive peaceful solution for the conflict in the region. The Saudi side stressed that the Palestinian issue is the basic axis for achieving peace and stability in the Middle East. A solution for this issue cannot be achieved except through the Palestinian people, represented by the PLO, its right to self-determination, and the withdrawal of Israel from all occupied territories, including East Jerusalem. The two sides stressed the necessity for Israel

to withdraw from all the Lebanese territories, and to respect Lebanese independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The two sides expressed their deep concern over the continuation of the current war between Iraq and Iran. They stressed the necessity of exerting efforts to end this war through negotiations, and in a way which guarantees the rights, dignity, and sovereignty of the two conflicting sides, as the continuation of this war constitutes a grave danger to security and stability in the region.

King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz expressed the appreciation of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the positive and constructive Italian position toward the various issues which concern the Arab and Islamic worlds, and also said that Saudi Arabia is looking forward to the role which could be played by the EEC during the period in which Italy will lead the EEC at the beginning of the coming year.

The honorable guest expressed his gratitude and deep thanks for the great hospitality by which he and the Italian delegation received during their visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Riyadh, 27 Safar 1405, equivalent to 20 November 1984.

Craxi Press Conference

LD202259 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Italian Prime Minister Be tino Craxi has affirmed the depth of Saudi-Italian relations and the wide cooperation between the two countries in the various industrial and economic fields. He pointed out that the two sides intend to widen and develop further the horizons of this cooperation.

Speaking at a news conference he held today, Craxi expressed his appreciation for the important role played by the Kingdom on the international level describing it as rational and moderate. Craxi said that his talks with King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz covered a number of issues of interest to both countries, along with the situation in the Middle East and Africa. He added that King Fahd gave him an analysis of the situation in the Middle East and spoke to him about the need for action to remove the obstacles in the way of a just solution for the Middle East.

The Italian prime minister said that a lasting peace cannot be achieved except through full respect for all peoples of the area. He said that the Palestinian people have suffered more than any other people and are still suffering from the state of conflict. He pointed out that Italy will exert all efforts to speed up holding peaceful negotiations for peace. He said that Italy and other European countries are not unaware of the problems and crises in the Middle East. He affirmed Italy's great interest in the peace process and its readiness to help in any useful initiative directed toward peace. He called on Europe and the Western world to adopt an effective stand with a view to removing the current obstacles. He pointed to the importance of the U.S. role in this regard. He called for the adoption of a clear stand toward the Palestinian line, pointing out that however hard a solution for the question might be it is not impossible.

Bettino Craxi put forward [an idea] for an Arab-international-European plan for the reconstruction of Beirut and Lebanon and expressed the hope that the situation in Lebanon will improve and peace will return. He said that he has submitted this idea to Lebanese officials.

The Italian prime minister left Riyadh this evening at the end of an official visit to the Kingdom lasting 2 days. He arrived at King Khalid International Airport accompanied by Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the prime minister, crown prince, and chief of the National Guard. The two men then proceeded to the platform of honor and the national anthems of both countries were played. The Italian prime minister then shook hands with the crown prince and others present to see him off headed by the minister of public works, Prince Mas'ad ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz; the minister of petroleum and mineral affairs, Ahmad Zaki Yamani; the chief of Royal Protocol, Ahmad 'Abd al-Wahhab; the mayor of Riyadh, 'Abdallah al-Nu'aym; the Saudi ambassador to Italy, Khalid al-Turki; the Italian ambassador to the Kingdom; and senior civilian and military officials.

Riyadh Commentary Lauds Fruitful Craxi Visit

LD202232 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 20 Nov 84

["News and Comment" by Husayn al-'Askari]

[Text] The news: Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi has had talks with senior officials of the Kingdom during his 2-day visit which he began yesterday.

The comment: The visit by Itanian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi to the Kingdom falls within the framework of a tour covering a number of countries of the area amid extremely important political changes of reported European tendencies toward the adoption of an independent stand on the Middle East and also amid preparations by Italy to assume the chairmanship of the EEC next January. Thus it can be said that the tour by the Italian Prime Minister Craxi is on an exploratory tour, particularly as Italy, in its capacity as the next chairman of the EEC, will be entrusted with the task of preparing and formulating a number of proposals within the framework of a European initiative aimed at contributing to a solution of the Middle East problem.

It is evident from the declared official Italian position toward the Middle East crisis that there are several vital and principal meeting points between the Italian stand and the Arab stand. Italy uses these points as springboards in its attempts to address the Arab side and in the talks of its prime minister with officials in the Kingdom during his present visit. The Italian support for the Palestine people and the establishment of their independent state are foremost among these points which would give any future European initiative favorable chances of meeting with the Arab initiative epitomized by the peace plan put forward at the Arab summit conference. King Fahd was the first to take the initiative in regard to this plan and to crystallizing the Arab stand and the Palestinian people's aspirations in its 7 points.

It must be stated that the European attitude toward the Middle

East crisis in general is based on the EEC Venice Declaration of 1980 and amendments introduced in accordance with decisions taken by the European summit at Brussels. These will be the basis for the results of the EEC summit scheduled to be held in Dublin in December, results manifested in a new attitude characterized by unanimity and initiative toward helping the efforts of peace.

In the light of these positive facts, the visit of the Italian prime minister to the Kingdom in particular and his current tour of a number of area countries constitute a European move which is blessed by the European community and sponsored by Italy in its capacity as the forthcoming chairman of the EEC. Furthermore, this visit will inevitably have a positive effect on bilateral relations between the Kingdom and Italy and will give an impetus to the joint action toward this end within the framework of the Saudi-Italian joint committee for the good of both friendly peoples.

UAE

Omani Interior Minister Arrives for Short Visit

GF201516 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Omani Interior Minister Badr ibn Su'ud ibn Harib arrived in the UAE for a short visit today. He was received at the airport by Hammudah ibn 'Ali, UAE minister of state for internal affairs, and senior officials. On his arrival, the Omani interior minister said that he is carrying a letter to UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan from Qabus ibn Sa'id, the sultan of Oman, dealing with the good bilateral relations between the two fraternal countries and ways of strengthening them.

President Receives Qabus Message

GF201518 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1425 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 20 Nov (WAKH) — UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan today received a letter from Omani Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id. The letter was delivered to Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid, Abu Dhabi heir apparent and deputy commander in chief of the UAE Armed Forces, by Omani Interior Minister Badr ibn Su'ud ibn Harib, who arrived in Abu Dhabi this afternoon.

Texaco Signs Pact for Oil, Gas Exploration

GF201154 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 20 Nov 84 p 1

[Text] The Umm al-Qaiwayn Government has signed an agreement with Texaco for exploring oil and gas in the emirate. Sources in the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources said 60,000 hectares in the south of the Emirate would be explored. The West German representative of the American oil company signed the agreement. The agreement is valid for 25 years, and can be extended for 10 more years. Another American oil company, Exxon, has been exploring oil and gas in Umm al-Qaiwayn. The two American companies have now decided to carry out the work through a consortium, which also includes a major West German company.

Sultan ibn Ahmad al-Mullah, a former minister for trade and economy and head of the Emirate's Department of Oil and Minerals, signed the agreement for the government.

Reportage on Visit of Hungarian Delegation

Delegation Arrives Aden

GF201736 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] At the invitation of the PDRY Interior Ministry, a Hungarian Interior Ministry delegation led by Comrade Janos Kamara, member of Central Committee and state secretary at the Interior Ministry of the Hungarian People's Republic, arrived in Aden today on a several-day visit to our country. ANA has learned that the Hungarian delegation will hold discussions with officials at the Interior Ministry on means of boosting cooperation between the interior ministries in the two friendly countries. The delegation was received by Brother Lieutenant Colonel 'Abd al-Sasia Salam and Brother Lieutenant Colonel Mutahar Sha'ab Muslih, deputies of the Interior Ministry; Brother 'Ali Munasar, deputy chairman of the State Security Committee; and a number of officials at the Interior Ministry.

Talks With Hungarians Begin

GF202010 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Talks between the PDRY Interior Ministry and the Hungarian Interior Ministry began at the Interior Ministry this evening. The PDRY side was led by Brother Colonel Muhammad 'Abdallah al-Batani, candidate member of the YSP Central Committee and minister of the interior, and the Hungarian side was led by Comrade Janos Kamara, member of the MSZMP [Hungarian Socialist Workers Party] Central Committee and state secretary at the Interior Ministry.

During the talks, Col al-Batani welcomed the Hungarian delegation and praised the relations linking the two ministries and the two countries, peoples, and parties. On his part, Comrade Kamara expressed happiness over the visit and over the hospitality he has received. He emphasized the need to strengthen and further these relations. The talks focused on the relations between the Interior Ministries in the two friendly countries, based on mutual relations between the two countries, and the means of strengthening and expanding them. Attending the talks were brothers Colonel Mutahhar Mus'id and Colonel 'Abd al-Wasi' Sallam, deputies of the Interior Ministry; and the Hungarian ambassador to Aden.

YSP Greets Romanian Communist Party Congress

GF201700 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 20 Nov 84

["Text" of greetings message from YSP Central Committee to Presidium and 13th Congress of the Romanian Communist Party — date not given]

[Text] We convey to you the warmest comradely greetings on the occasion of the 13th congress of your party which represents an important point in the progress of the Romanian Communist Party and the Socialist Republic of Romania.

While we are hailing your success in the building of progressive socialism in the Socialist Republic of Romania under the leadership of your party, we also hail your positive role within the framework of the socialist countries, the main ally of the struggle of our Yemeni people, and the Arab peoples against capitalism and Zionism. We support the peaceful policy of your country and the rest of the socialist countries aimed at curbing the arms race and undermining the aggressive NATO plots aimed at liquidating socialist achievements, the national liberation movements, and the national and progressive systems. We reiterate the importance of enhancing relations between our parties and our countries for the benefit of the goals of our peoples' in achieving progress, peace, and socialism.

We wish all the sucess for your party's 13th congress, and we wish your people all progress and prosperity under the leadership of the Romanian Communist Party.

Officials Briefed on Al-Qadhdhafi's 'Terrorist' Plans

NC201806 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1735 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Cairo, 20 Nov (MENA) — Interior Minister Ahmad Rushdi met in his office today with a number of Arab and European officials, who have come to the Interior Ministry to be briefed on the details of terrorist operations which the Libyan regime intends to carry out in a number of Arab and European countries. The interior minister briefed the officials on all the details and information concerning these operations which were obtained from confessions.

The MENA correspondent learned that Ahmad Rushdi gave British authorities the names of the terrorists which the Libyan colonel has (?sent) to London to carry out his terrorist plans.

Prime Minister 'Ali Interviewed on Arab Issues

NC201733 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1530 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Beirut, 20 Nov (MENA) — Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that most Arab countries want to see Arab solidarity restored; they merely differ on timing and style. In an interview to be published in tomorrow's issue of the Lebanese weekly *AL-SAYYAD*, the prime minister said that Egypt's relations with several Arab countries have improved remarkably and that Egypt does not want to embarrass any country over the restoration of relations — this is a matter left for each country to decide individually.

'Ali said that every sincere Arab knows that Arab solidarity is urgently needed if the Arab countries want to reach agreement on measures to deal with unresolved issues and reduce Arab tensions — tensions which adversely affect Arab progress and [word indistinct].

The prime minister stressed that Egypt is wagering on peace and this dominates its attitudes toward all parties — the PLO, Israel, the Arab countries, and the superpowers.

'Ali denied that Egypt had informed the United States or the Soviet Union beforehand of its decision to restore relations with Jordan. This, he said, was decided exclusively by the two countries. Egypt's political line is very clear, 'Ali added, and it has been boosted by the restoration of relations with Jordan.

The prime minister did not deny that Egypt is urging the United States to supply the Arab countries with the weapons they need. Egypt is prepared to sell Egyptian-made weapons to Jordan in the same manner it sells them to Iraq.

'Ali said PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Jordan — following Mubarak's visit — is a positive sign; however, the time is not yet ripe for speaking about decisions agreed upon by Muabrak and King Husayn.

The prime minister denied that Egyptian-Israeli relations would return [to normal] if the Tabah issue alone is solved. There are some Arab commitments that Egypt cannot overlook.

Religious fanaticism has become a matter of course in Israel, 'Ali pointed out. This can endanger the peace process because the Israelis are clinging to the land out of religious, and not security motives. Political issues should not be left to extremist groups, 'Ali said. He added that any government with self-respect should be able to keep matters under control.

'Ali said he hopes the United States will succeed in bringing peace to the Middle East, pointing out that Egypt never relinquished its call on European countries to play their role in bringing peace to the region.

Any initiative that can bring peace to the Middle East is welcome, 'Ali said, adding that Egypt is ready to participate in an international conference, with Soviet participation, to discuss the area's problems.

'Ali pointed out that both Israel's economic situation and public opinion will force it to withdraw from Lebanon, provided that it obtains (?security guarantees).

Regarding relations between Egypt and the Soviet Union, 'Ali said there are no new plans at this stage. He ruled out a visit by President Mubarak to Moscow and said that bilateral relations are good at the level of exchanges of commercial and trade delegations. The volume of trade has reached almost $340 million. He pointed out that there is a political difference between Egypt and the Soviet Union regarding Middle East problems, but this does not negate [yulghi] the two countries' relations and does not prevent their continuity.

The prime minister denied that Egypt's role in Lebanon has diminished in line with the U.S. role there. He stressed that contacts between Egypt and Lebanon are continuing and said that Egypt is not [words indistinct]. He expressed his hope that Lebanon will not be partitioned and that no cantons will be set up because this would have a negative effect on the Arab nation as a whole, with the exception of Egypt. All Arab countries must work to prevent this from happening [words indistinct] an idea which some people have in Lebanon.

'Ali stressed that Egypt's sons live as honest civilians and that neither a Muslim nor a Coptic Egyptian ever thinks that Egypt or a single inch of Egyptian territory will be fragmented. The prime minister denied that there is any competition or sensitivity between the Egyptian Army and civilians in Egypt and said that there is mutual appreciation between the Army and the people.

The prime minister said that under President Mubarak's rule, Egypt enjoys expanded meetings between officials and President Mubarak during which all problems and issues are discussed. Every official expresses his opinion freely and President Mubarak absolutely does not impose his opinion on any meeting. He listens patiently and adopts a decision after a comprehensive study. This is clear, regardless of whether the matter concerns economic decisions, those related to the 5-year plan, or those related to Egypt's investment policy. Egypt is a stable country with a constitutional system. This firm basis, which is full of guarantees, provides enough to satisfy everybody, including the prime minister.

Japanese Foreign Minister Abe Arrives in Cairo
NC201615 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1605 GMT Nov 84

[Text] Cairo, 20 Nov (MENA) — Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe and his delegation arrived in Cairo from Ethiopia this afternoon on a 1-day visit, which comes at the end of his African tour. The aim of the Japanese foreign minister's tour is to provide aid for African countries suffering from drought.

DPRK's O Chin-u Concludes Visit, Departs
NC201938 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1745 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Cairo, 20 Nov (MENA) — O Chin-u, DPRK minister of the People's Armed Forces, left Cairo this afternoon at the end of a 10-day visit to Egypt during which he attended the opening of the Cairo international exhibition for defense equipment. The Korean minister also held talks with Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production.

New Jordanian Ambassador Hamami Approved
NC201330 Cairo MENA in English 1315 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Cairo, Nov. 20 (MENA) — Egypt approved today Jordan's nomination of Hasan Hamami, director general of the Jordanian Foreign Ministry, as its new ambassador in Cairo.

'Abd al-Majid, Ghali Meet With Paris Mayor
NC201743 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1730 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Cairo, 20 Nov (MENA) — Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid today met with Jacques Chirac, the mayor of Paris and leader of the Gaullist Party, who is currently visiting Cairo. The meeting was attended by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali, Cairo Governor Yusuf Abu Talib, and French Ambassador Philippe Cuvillier.

Various developments in the Middle East, the Palestinian problem in particular, and the Lebanese problem, were discussed during the meeting. Both sides also reviewed African problems, particularly the Chadian problem, in addition to bilateral relations.

Mubarak Receives FRG Parliamentary Delegation
NC210831 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0815 GMT 21 Nov 84

[Text] Cairo, 21 Nov (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received an FRG parliamentary delegation headed by Roswitha Wisniewski, chairman of the Egypt-FRG Friendship Association, at Al-'Urubah Palace this morning. The meeting was attended by People's Assembly Speaker Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub and FRG Ambassador in Cairo Kurt Mueller.

Al-Mahjub: 'No Foreign Troops on Egyptian Soil'
NC181619 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1558 GMT 18 Nov 84

[Text] Cairo, 18 Nov (MENA) — Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub, the speaker of the Egyptian People's Assembly, has confirmed that there are no foreign troops on any part of Egyptian soil and that there are no U.S troops at Ra's Banas base. Dr al-Mahjub also affirmed that Ra's Banas base is Egyptian and will remain so.

Dr al-Mahjub was commenting on a statement made today in the People's Assembly by Counselor Mumtaz Nassar, leader of the opposition Al-Wafd Party, that news agencies occasionally carry reports about the presence of U.S. forces at Ra's Banas base near the Red Sea.

Tawfiq 'Abduh Isma'il, minister of the People's Assembly and Consultative Council's affairs, also commented on this saying there are no foreign troops on Egyptian soil. He noted that the maneuvers which the Egyptian Armed Forces were carrying out with the great powers prove that the Armed Forces are actually benefiting from these maneuvers.

Armed Forces Official Spokesman Appointed
NC181150 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1139 GMT 18 Nov 84

[Text] Cairo, 18 Nov (MENA) — It has been decided to appoint Brigadier General Mustafa 'Adil Zaytun as the official military spokesman for the Egyptian Armed Forces. Brig Gen Zaytun previously held the post of Egyptian military attache in Oman. He obtained [word indsitinct] in administration from the American University [in Cairo].

Petroleum Minister on Oil Sector Output
NC171620 Cairo MENA in English 1400 GMT 17 Nov 84

[Text] Cairo, 17 Nov (MENA) — Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Wealth 'Abd al-Hadi Qandil said that the output of crude oil and natural gas and its derivatives amounted in 1983-84 to 41.9 million tons or 829 thousand barrels per day, a 14 percent increase over last year. The minister also said that the oil sector has achieved remarkable accomplishments despite problems facing oil production and prices at the international level. The oil sector contributed 1317 million dollars to the balance of payments in 1983-84, an increase of 5 percent over last year.

This came today during celebrations marking the ninth anniversary of petroleum day which coincides with the lapse of nine years since the restoration of Sinai oil fields from Israel.

Minister Qandil said that the balance of payments of the oil sector amounted during the first quarter of 1984-85 to 539 million dollars or 27 percent of the targeted amount for this [year]. The minister also said that the refining capacity of the Egyptian refineries amounted to 18,561,000 tons in fiscal year 1983-84, an increase of 845 thousand tons over the previous year.

He added that the volume of investments in the oil sector amounted to 487 million pounds in 1983-84, up by 16 percent over the previous year. Qandil pointed out that the daily output

of 15 new fields amounted to 140 thousand barrels beside their output of natural gas, which amounted to 33 million cubic feet per day.

The oil minister handed medals and decorations to 16 veteran workers of the oil sector on behalf of President Husni Mubarak, for their remarkable efforts in that field.

Six Egyptian Communist Party Leaders Arrested

NC180944 Cairo MENA in English 0918 GMT 18 Nov 84

[Text] Cairo, 19 Nov (MENA) — *AL-AKHBAR* reports on its front page the arrest of six suspected leaders of the Egyptian Communist Party with whom leaflets and other publications were seized inciting the people to hatred of the government and slandering its policies. The suspects are under investigation by the state security prosecution.

Briefs

New Research Center Director — Cairo, 17 Nov (MENA) — Dr Muhammad Kamil Mahmud, president of the Academy for Scientific Research and Technology, issued a decision today appointing the academy's vice president, Dr Baha' al-Din Fayiz, as director of the National Research Center. [Excerpt] [*Cairo MENA in Arabic 1648 GMT 17 Nov 84 NC*]

Air Force Raids Central, Southern Sectors

JN201717 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Communique No 1,656 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 20 November 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The triumphant Iraqi forces, which are proud of their victories over the vicious Iranian enemy forces during the past years, are capable, with God's help and the determination of its glorious men, of increasing the frustration and impotency of the rapacious aggressors and of inflicting further defeats and losses on their humiliated forces. Our forces are capable of sending back the criminal Iranian rulers in ignominy and defeat if they dare to encroach on Iraqi soil and threaten the dignity of the Iraqi people or the future of their children. The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. All day today, our daring Air Force planes carried out their raids on enemy units, armor, and troop movements in the central sector.

Our planes pounded all the selected enemy targets, scoring accurate hits and transforming enemy equipment and men into dismembered, burned heaps.

At 1100 today, a number of our plane formations attacked enemy concentrations and engineering equipment in the southern sector, spreading destruction and fire among the forces of the racist invaders. Our planes returned safely and triumphantly to their bases, praise be to God. Our fighter planes carried out 148 combat missions today.

2. Our artillery pounded several enemy positions and troop concentrations in the central sector, inflicting human losses and destroying two infantry positions and one weapon emplacement.

3. Our forward units opened fire at a number of enemy weapons and personnel positions east of Basra, destroying one heavy machine gun and killing those manning it. One weapon emplacement was also destroyed and those manning it were either killed or wounded.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 20 November 1984

Navy Source Renews Warning to Gulf Ships

JN210855 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0800 GMT 21 Nov 84

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Nov (INA) — A source in the naval force and coastal defense said here today that the Iraqi Navy has destroyed and sunk 298 Iranian maritime targets since the war began on 4 September 1980.

In a statement to *AL-THAWRAH*, published here today, the source said that the Iraqi naval force will continue to accurately implement its siege of the Iranian coasts as long as the war continues. The source stressed that Iraq will strongly attack those cooperating with the Iranian enemy and helping it to prolong war through their attempts to break the Iraqi siege. He renewed previous Iraqi warnings to the owners of ships and tankers to not approach the prohibited zone previously announced by Iraq.

He said that during their naval battles with the Iranians, the Iraqi Navy men managed to get 20-25 km from the Iranian coasts — zero distance in maritime terms — and dealt a devastating blow to the enemy in areas where Iraqi naval units were not expected.

Tariq 'Aziz Confers With UK's Richard Luce

JN201540 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1516 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Nov (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met with Richard Luce, minister of state at the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and his delegation in Baghdad today. They discussed bilateral relations, the situation in the region, and topics of common concern.

The meeting was attended by the Iraqi Foreign Ministry under secretary, Taha Yasin al-'Ali, the ministry's first international department's head, and the British ambassador in Baghdad.

Trade Minister Meets Luce

JN201728 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1645 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Nov (INA) — Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister, met with Richard Luce, minister of state at the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office, in Baghdad today. They reviewed bilateral relations and Iraqi-British cooperation in the trade, economic, and technical fields and the means of developing this cooperation.

Soviet Delegation Leaves Baghdad 20 Nov

JN201849 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] The Soviet delegation which participated in the celebrations of the Soviet-Iraqi friendship days, which began on 5 November, left Baghdad today.

During the visit, the delegation was acquainted with development in Iraq and held talks with a number of officials and heads of unions on reinforcing friendship and cooperation relations between the Iraqi and Soviet people. The delegation was seen off by a number of Iraqi-Soviet Friendship Scoiety members.

National Assembly Speaker Interviewed by AL-AHRAM

PM201535 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 14 Nov 84 p 6

[Report on interview with National Assembly Speaker Sa'dun Hammadi by Mahmud Murad in Baghdad — date not given]

[Excerpts] We began the interview with a question about the continuous supply of arms to Iran and the claim that the Iraq-Iran war is a forgotten war because the superpowers do not care to stop it and they in fact help the other side despite its rejection of all peace efforts.

Sa'dun Hammadi said: We have contacted the big powers and frankly told them what is going on and conveyed to them our views on the question of the military aid given to the Iranian regime. They officially assured us that they want the war to end, not continue. We have had such repeated assurances from the United States, the Soviet Union, and others, but the truth is that Iran is getting Western arms — in accordance with its armament system. It may be said that these arms come from the black market, but such quantities cannot possibly be obtained through arms dealers without the approval, satisfaction, and even facilities of the governments.

We have more than once explained this fact to the various states, saying that the continuation of the war because of the encouragement given to the Iranians is in nobody's interest, and certainly not in the interest of these states. Their answer is that they know nothing about this matter. They asked us to give them information that would enable them to stop this kind of trade. We do believe, however, that if the superpowers really want to prevent the delivery of arms to Iran they can do it. We do not believe that the superpowers conclude direct deals with Iran, but this is not the only way Iran can get arms. There are other ways such as, for example, the deals concluded between Iran and Israel. This has been proven through documented evidence. That is why we cannot categorically state that the superpowers do not facilitate the delivery of arms to Iran, although the continuation of the war is against the interests of these states in the region.

[Murad] What about the diplomatic efforts [to end the war]?

[Hammadi] The Iranians are inconsistent. Their conditions for ending the war are not always the same. They are anything but precise on this matter. Iranian official statements often reflect internal conflicts and rivalry and are meant for local consumption. Just as they gamble on war, they also gamble by rejecting the peace efforts. I believe, however, that the diplomatic efforts aimed at ending the war should continue despite the Iranian position.

[Murad] What about the preservation of Arab independence?

[Hammadi] The long and continuous war has so far taught the Iranian and Arab sides a few lessons. The Iranian side will think twice before comitting any aggression or transgression against the Arabs. In the past it never took the Arab factor into consideration. Past and recent history confirms that, despite the agreements of 1913, 1937 and 1975, the Iranian side always violated documents bearing its signature to achieve a gain and then move one step forward by asking for new agreements, and so forth. It is quite clear now that the Iranian side cannot commit aggression against the Arabs. Its influence and domination of the Arab Gulf region are finished and done with forever. What is now needed is balanced relations based on mutual respect and respect for the rights of all sides. That would end the long conflict and create a positive atmosphere for the promotion of peace and stability in the Arab Gulf region and would preclude Iranian domination and hegemonistic ambitions.

As far as the Arab side is concerned, there is a general and strong awareness in the Gulf states that intrinsic power is a must and that independence cannot be preserved without such power. What I mean is that you cannot simply rely on the friendship of a superpower. The theory that independence can be safeguarded through relations with the superpowers has collapsed permanently. It is now clear that independence can be safeguarded mainly through solidarity of the Arab Gulf states and growth of their intrinsic power.

The fact that Saudi Arabia has managed to shoot down an Iranian plane which violated its airspace with the aim of attacking the Saudi coast proves my point. It means that if Saudi Arabia did not use its weapons, Iran would have continued to commit aggression and violations against Saudi Arabia or any other Arab side, because they all have drawn the same conclusions.

Arab solidarity and Arab intrinsic power are therefore necessary. However, the Iraq-Iran war has produced a negative precedent. Never before has an Arab side openly and frankly supported a foreign country whose admitted aim is to invade an Arab country. It is a serious precedent that two Arab countries, namely Syria and Libya, are extending moral and material support to the Iranian side in the war. This precedent is far below the minimum acceptable level of Arab differences. This attitude, or precedent, is bound to have a major effect on the general Arab situation and on the morale inside Iraq now and in the future. What would the Iraqi citizens and soldiers do in the event of a new war against Syria? Would they rush to fight alongside their Syrian brothers or would they remember the present Syrian attitude?

Of course we as a regime and leadership will not pursue a different policy. This precedent will not produce principles contrary to our pan-Arab line, but do you not see that the Iraqis are deeply hurt?

The present Arab situation is such that much greater efforts are needed to restore normal conditions. Work within the Arab League is now difficult because of the insurmountable lack of Arab solidarity, but we should still preserve and support it, even though its present capabilities are limited. We must realize that it can only produce limited results because it reflects the entire Arab homeland, but we should not be discouraged by such limited results. We should develop it. For example, officially speaking there is an Arab joint defense pact, but it has not been implemented.

Furthermore, two Arab League members (Syria and Libya) are helping a foreign country in its war against an Arab country which is an Arab League member. The other Arab League members should therefore exert considerable pressure and take the necessary stand to make these two members (Syria and Libya) realize that what they are doing will not pass with impunity or without any consequences. Yes, a firm and decisive stand should be taken against the Arab states which support Iran. They should, if possible, also be punished.

Further Reporatage on Al-Naqurah Negotiations

Coverage of Talks Limited

NC210818 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 21 Nov 84

[Dispatch by National Information Agency correspondent Antoine 'Awn in Al-Naqurah — live]

[Text] The Lebanese and the Israeli negotiating delegations have not arrived in Al-Naqurah so far. All matters are proceeding well in Tarah camp and at the conference hall. However, correspondents coming from Beirut today were surprised by UN instructions distributed by UNIFIL spokesman Timor Goksel, relating to the timetable of the helicopters' departure to Beirut, fixed at 1300 for Lebanese correspondents, following the morning round of talks and before the afternoon session. Southern correspondents will depart Tarah Camp in a UN bus to Tyre at 1600.

The reasons for that, according to Goksel, is due to the security situation and to technical matters related to the helicopters' takeoff and landing in Beirut.

Therefore, we hope to cover whatever we can from now until 1300, after which you can blame the circumstances and obstacles which we hope will be eliminated later. Two sessions are expected to be held today.

Military Delegations Arrive

NC210748 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0735 GMT 21 Nov 84

[Dispatch by National Information Agency correspondent Antoine 'Awn in Al-Naqurah — live]

[Text] The Lebanese military negotiating delegation arrived in Al-Naqurah at 0920 aboard two helicopters of the Italian contingent. Members of the delegation were carrying bags and maps. Soon they will be taken in UN vehicles to the conference hall about 400 meters from the landing strip. The first session is not expected to begin before 1000 due to routine measures including the journalists and photographers entry into the hall. Strict security measures have been taken, including reinforced concrete blocks around the conference hall. We have sighted naval units in the southern waters but we have not heard the sound of warplanes so far. I have just learned that the Israeli negotiating delegation has also arrived in Al-Naqurah by land.

Dispatch on Al-Naqurah Talks

NC211127 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 21 Nov 84

[Dispatch by National Information Agency correspondent Antoine 'Awn from Al-Naqurah — live]

[Text] A short while ago the Lebanese delegation released comprehensive information about today's session, the latest of which were questions raised by Staff Brigadier General Muhammad al-Hajj requesting a clear response from the Israeli side. These questions were:

Does Israel believe that the UN forces are there for peacekeeping?

Does Israel object to the presence of these forces along the international border to keep the peace?

Is UN Security Council Resolution 425, which defined the role of these forces, clear to the Israeli side?

Has Lebanese the right — since Israel recognized that Lebanon is sovereign on its territory — to define the task of its Army and the UN forces' role?

Did not the Israeli side clearly admit that the Army and the legitimate forces were the suitable instruments to consolidate security?

Does Israel desire and request effective and serious security arrangements and who could provide these more than the Army?

Brig Gen al-Hajj outlined that the Lebanese side was positive in proposing a purely Lebanese security plan which will cover all the occupied area in the south, west Al-Biqa', and Rashayya. He also made another offer for a part of this area covering Sidon, Jazzin, west Al-Biqa', Rashayya, Hasbayya, and Shab'a.

Brig Gen al-Hajj asked the Israeli side to provide him with a copy of a plan showing the areas of the Israeli forces deployment on Lebanese territory and whether the withdrawal will be in one or several stages. He also requested a timetable for the withdrawal and a clarification of the following matters:

1. The date and time of the withdrawal;
2. The area of the withdrawal;
3. The size of the withdrawing force;
4. The course of the withdrawal;
5. The time necessary to conclude the full withdrawal as of the date it begins.

Brig Gen al-Hajj asked whether Israel views the withdrawal taking place simultaneously with the Lebanese Army's deployment. He suggested the presence of UN officers to coordinate the operations with a simultaneous withdrawal. Al-Hajj recalled that the purpose of these talks is the complete withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanese territory. He added that the security arrangements were the means for this withdrawal. He affirmed the Lebanese principles that Lebanon has the right to sovereignty over every inch of its territory, as the Israelis admitted. Hence Lebanon has the right to define the role, task, and deployment of the legitimate forces on all its territory.

He emphasized the basic role of the Army's security arrangements and the basic role of the UN forces in accordance with UN Security Council Resolution 425 — a temporary role of assisting the Lebanese legitimate forces. Al-Hajj said that he expects answers to his questions.

The Lebanese delegation released a statement on the negotiations, in which it said: The Lebanese and Israeli sides have responded to the UN secretary general's invitation to hold talks in Al-Naqurah regarding a complete [Israeli] withdrawal from south Lebanon, west Al-Biqa', and Rashayya, and for making the security arrangements for this withdrawal.

At the first session, formal proceedings were discussed. A press satement was released [on the proceedings] at the end of the first session by the UN delegate. This was also done at the second session. At the end of the third session, the Israeli delegation sought to reopen the discussion of the same subject as if it was attempting to defer the talks so as not to arrive at the desired result.

At the second session, the Israeli side asked that the security plan for Sidon, Jazzin, and Rashayya be discussed with or without the deployment of the UN forces.

Responding to the desire to push the talks forward, the Lebanese side proposed a Lebanese plan which depended on the legitimate forces while taking into consideration the military, geographical, and demographic factors, while believing that guarantees must be provided to speed up the Israeli withdrawal. For this purpose, the number of forces assigned to this area were above those required militarily. The population in the south was considered a positive factor in the Army's interest and was waiting the Army's arrival to help it.

Al-Hajj said that the Israeli delegation stressed the following:

1. A plan which will basically depend on the UN emergency forces' role, while before the Israeli delegation had asked for a plan with or without these forces.
2. The Israeli side made new demands harmful to Lebanese sovereignty, although it repeatedly and clearly recognized Lebanon's sovereignty. The Lebanese side had praised the positivism of this recognition at the previous session.
3. The Israeli side rejected the deployment of the Lebanese Army in Shab'a and Hasbayya on the pretext of their proximity to the Israeli border. The Lebanese delegation asked why? Are not these within the areas over which the Israeli side has recognized our sovereignty?

The Lebanese delegation said: It appears from the foregoing that the Israeli side — by returning to formal proceedings agreed upon or by backing off the stances and principles adopted and applied more than once — was harboring a desire to hinder the progress of the talks and perhaps bring about their failure.

Therefore, the Lebanese delegation said, we believe that it is necessary to abide by what was agreed upon and not waste time by returning to previous discussions out of our desire to speed up the talks and achieve progress.

Here ends the Lebanese delegation's statement.

Meanwhile, it was learned that 'Amos Gilbo'a, the head of the Israeli delegation, today repeated Israel's agreement on the UN forces' deployment along a line extending from Sidon, via Jazzin, and up to Al-Baruk. Gilbo'a made no reference to the deployment of legitimate Lebanese forces on this line. It is noted here that the Israelis returned to the proposal of making the UN forces a barrier in view of the fact that their forces are deployed in Al-Baruk. However, the Lebanese side rejected the logic of this. In this atmosphere, the first session of the fourth round of the military talks is continuing in Al-Naqurah today.

Soviet Envoy on Al-Naqurah Talks, Other Issues

NC201325 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Husayn al-Husayni, speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, received Soviet Ambassador Aleksandr Soldatov at 1100 today. Following their meeting, the ambassador said: After my return from a vacation, I deemed it my duty to visit Speaker Husayn al-Husayni and congratulate him on his new post. I also conveyed the congratulations of the Supreme Soviet to him.

Referring to the Soviet stand on the Al-Naqurah negotiations, Soldatov said: It would be better for me to speak about the situation in the south. We support the Israelis' unconditional and unrestricted withdrawal from Lebanese territory.

The ambassador added: As for our attitude toward UNIFIL following the recent UN Security Council resolution, we continue to pursue our previous stand.

On Soviet support for the Al-Naqurah negotaitions, Soldatov said: We support everything that can lead to the Israeli Army's immediate withdrawal from Lebanese territory.

Asked about his country's stand on Palestinian differences, the Soviet ambassador said: We feel sorry when differences emerge between the Palestinian groups, represented within the one Palestinian movement, and the Arab states. We believe that the Arab states and the Palestinian movement must adopt a united stand.

On the invitations extended to some Palestinian groups to visit Moscow, the ambassador said: I have no information about these invitations. However, we must do everything possible to ensure unity in the Palestinians' ranks.

Asked his opinion of Syria's stand on this state of affairs, he said: We base our stand on the principles that I outlined previously.

The ambassador was then asked about the Soviet stand on the tension in relations between Egypt and Libya. He responded: Any tension among the Arab states is undesirable.

Villages Besieged; Birri Warns Israel

NC210630 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 21 Nov 84

[Text] While the Al-Naqurah talks will be resumed today, the Israeli enemy is continuing his savage and inhuman attacks on the villages and citizens in the steadfast and resisting south. A violent confrontation took place yesterday between the citizens of Irzay and Al-Khara'ib in the south and hundreds of enemy soldiers who besieged the two villages for over 20 hours. The enemy used various weapons, including tank and helicopter fire besides poisonous gas, while the citizens used boiling oil. The number of casualties among the citizens, most of whom were women, is unknown.

Even the wounded were not spared from the attack and from being arrested. The enemy chased ambulances and prevented the Lebaense and International Red Cross officials from entering Al-Khara'ib and Irzay to pick up the wounded.

The citizens of Bidyas and Burj Rahhal came to the aid of their fellow citizens in Irzay and Al-Khara'ib and took the wounded and helped those who escaped the Israeli oppression to flee to the fields and caves. The besieged villages in the south appealed to the world's conscience to come to the aid of a people who are being forcibly coerced by an enemy using every Nazi method.

Minister Birri has warned Israel against the consequences of continuing such savage and inhuman practices and threatened that the response will be severe. Minister Birri emphasized the need for maintaining the national resistance operations against the enemy in the south in view of the pressure being put on the enemy. Had it not been for this resistance, Israel would not have agreed to the negotiations, not even under the UN auspices and the Armistice Commission or through international mediation. He warned that Israel will resort to further oppression and arrests and that we will increase the operations while the fire is still hot.

Beirut Reports on Military Council Meeting
NC210740 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 21 Nov 84

[Text] The Cabinet will review today the Military Council's decisions made at yesterday's meeting chaired by Army Commander General Michel 'Awn and attended by chief of staff Major General Mahmud Tayy Abu Dargham, Brigadier General Nabil Quraytim, Brigadier General Edgar Ma'luf, Colonel Lutfi Jabir, Colonel 'Isam Abu Jamrah, Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations Staff Colonel Ghassan Dahir, 6th Brigade Commander Brigadier General 'Abd al-Halim Kanj, and Assistant Chief of Intelligence Colonel Nabih Farhah.

The 5-hour meeting was also attended by the Amal representative at the Security Arrangements Committee, Ayyub Humayyid, and the adviser to the minister of public works and tourism, Akram Shuhayyib, who agreed in principle to the Beirut security plan. However, they requested answers to several questions related to the Army's role in greater Beirut and the effect of the measures to be implemented. They expressed the readiness of the Amal movement and the Progressive Socialist Party to eliminate obstacles in the way of the success of Beirut's security plan which will be the first and basic step toward [the Army's deployment in] the south.

Birri on Army Deployment on Coastal Highway
NC210826 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 21 Nov 84

[Text] Minister Nabih Birri has affirmed to the Press Association that there is an agreement in principle to link Tripoli with Sidon and thus defuse the explosive situation in Iqlim al-Kharrub. Minister Birri added that if the legitimate authority's forces are deployed in Tripoli, Beirut, and down to Al-Awwali, the inter-Lebanese war will end but another war sought by the Israelis will continue.

He said: We allowed the Army Command to summon representatives of the Amal movement and of the Progressive Socialist Party to review details of military measures and their implementation in Beirut this coming Sunday and along the coastal highway the following Sunday.

Birri believed that the implementation of the security plan must be coordinated among the Amal movement, the Progressive Socialist Party, and the Army to ensure the success of the plan.

Minister Birri said that Minister Junblatt agrees to the Cabinet's decisions for the Army's deployment. However, this operation cannot be carried out without specific arrangements, including the re-equiping of the 6th Brigade and the return of its Christian members who deserted the brigade following the 6 February uprising, particularly the brigade's chief of staff.

Minister Birri added that the Lebanese people have a unique opportunity before them to end the inter-Lebanese war. Minister Birri expressed his full confidence in all communities in the south and called on Israel to withdraw.

Nothing will occur among the Lebanese in spite of the enemy's attempts to create sedition and some [security] gaps to trigger an internal war that will once again disturb the situation and give Israel the power to hold the cards in the political game.

Al-Jumayyil Meets With Former President Sham'un
NC201458 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] This morning, President Amin al-Jumayyil received [former] President Camille Sham'un, minister of finance and housing and cooperatives.

The talks dealt with financial and banking matters. Sham'un expressed the hope that peace will flourish in Lebanon, adding that the capital's security plan will be implemented at the end of next week.

President al-Asad Requests Brother To Return

GF201512 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 19 Nov 84 p 22

[Excerpts] Well informed Arab sources in Paris have told *AL-QABAS* that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad has recently contacted his brother Rif'at al-Asad and asked him to return to Syria. The sources pointed out that Al-Asad has asked his brother to return before 26 November when President Mitterrand is due to visit Syria.

Rif'at al-Asad has not yet made a final decision on whether to return to Syria. However, there is much communication between him, President al-Asad and various Arab sides. The next few days will tell whether Rif'at will return to Syria in response to his brother's request to play a role that will be specified and fixed by President al-Asad, or will stay in exile aspiring for a bigger role in the future.

'Arafat Expected To Tender Resignation at PNC

JN210736 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 21 Nov 84

[Text] Information received from Amman says that Yasir 'Arafat and his clique, in full cooperation and coordination with the Jordanian regime's organs, are preparing for a surprise. 'Arafat will dramatically and theatrically announce his resignation at the dissident conference he has called to overcome both his crisis and the illegality of his conference, after the resistance factions and all of the Palestinian popular organizations and professional unions, as well as a large number of Palestinian figures, have declined to attend this conference.

The scenario of this theatrical has been prepared so that 'Arafat will announce his resignation at the dissident PNC meeting in Amman. After this announcement, the agents of 'Arafat and the Jordanian regime in the West Bank, as well as the PLO offices abroad run by 'Arafat's henchmen, will try to incite premeditated demonstrations demanding that he stay in his post, depicting this as a popular request.

This information stresses that a premeditated coordination between 'Arafat and his clique on the one hand, and the Jordanian intelligence service and its agents on the other, is taking place to produce this theatrical with the aim of rescuing 'Arafat from his impasse and subsequently enabling him to continue his planned role in the plot aimed at authorizing the Jordanian regime to liquidate the Palestine question.

'Arafat's circles do not conceal their concern over the unanimous Palestinian rejection of the dissident council meeting in Amman and over the exposure of the aims of 'Arafat and the king by the Palestinian organizations, the PNC speaker, and well over half of the PLO Executive Committee members — in addition to the fact that over 187 PNC members have so far decided to boycott the council's meetings in Amman.

Further on Activities of Visiting Hungarian Delegation

Al-Ahmar, Hungary's Apro Confer

JN201337 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Damascus — Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, received Comrade Antal Apro, president of the Hungarian National Assembly, and his delegation today. The meeting was attended by Comrade Muhsin Bilal, chairman of the Arab and International Relations Committee at the People's Assembly, and the Hungarian ambassador in Damascus.

The talks revolved around the developed relations between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party, and the ways to strengthen cooperation and friendship relations in various spheres between the two friendly countries. They exchanged opinions about the developments in the Arab and international arenas and the dangers caused by U.S. imperialism's hostile policy, especially its schemes to support Israel's aggression, escalate the nuclear arms race, and exacerbate the international atmosphere. The two sides asserted that this trend will endanger world security and peace.

Comrade Antal Apro expressed his pleasure and that of his accompanying delegation, that the visit coincides with the Syrian people's celebration of the anniversary of the Corrective Movement. He praised Syria's achievements since the Corrective Movement on all levels under President Hafiz al-Asad's leadership. He asserted his country's support for Syria's steadfastness in the face of schemes against the Arab nation.

Al-Asad Receives Parliamentarians

JN201908 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received Antal Apro, president of the Hungarian National Assembly, and his accompanying parliamentary delegation at 1730 today. The meeting was attended by People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi and the Hungarian ambassador in Damascus.

Apro conveyed to the president the greetings of Hungarian President Pal Losonczi and Comrade Janos Kadar, first secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party Central Committee. The president thanked him, and asked him to convey his greetings to President Losonczi, Comrade Kakar, and the friendly Hungarian people.

Apro expressed his admiration for Syria's important achievements in all spheres. He praised Syria's steadfastness in the face of Zionist and imperialist schemes. He asserted Hungary's support for Syria in its self-defense and in its struggle to achieve a just and comprehensive peace and to attain luxury for the people. He said: Syria and Hungary stand with the socialist countries and anti-imperialist countries in one trench to face the same enemy.

The president stressed Syria's determination to confront and abort Zionist and imperialist schemes, to liberate the occupied Arab territory, and to regain the usurped rights. He said: Syria is confident of the future, and it feels that it is capable of remaining steadfast, because the people stand united behind their leadership and because Syria has strong friends in the world, particularly the USSR and the socialist countries.

Damascus Assails 'Arafat, Jordan's King Husayn

JN181308 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 18 Nov 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] When Syria announced through its leader Al-Asad that the Palestinian issue is Syria's issue, as well as being the central Arab issue since it is the crux of the Arab-Zionist conflict, it was absolutely sincere and confirmed it through its struggle. In fact, the Syrian blood that watered the Palestinian soil in Palestine's cities and villages and the Ba'th Party strugglers' continuing struggle to champion the Palestinian issue and achieve its just objectives is a brilliant illustration of this struggle.

If the struggle for Palestine has been a tradition in the Syrian policy, then this tradition has been entrenched and assumed its complete dimensions under the Corrective Movement led by President Hafiz al-Asad. It is sufficient to say that the Palestinian struggle would not have become so comprehensive had it not been for the material, military, and human support that was provided by Syria under the Corrective Movement and Al-Asad. Moreover, it is sufficient to note that President al-Asad was the one who imposed at the Rabat summit the principle that the PLO should be regarded as the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. This principle was resisted by the Arab regimes, foremost of which was the Jordanian regime which ferociously resisted this principle. It is also sufficient to recall that the Syrian rifle alone resisted the Israeli invasion in Lebanon alongside the rifles of the Lebanese nationalist movement and the Palestinian revolution.

Since this has been the Syrian stand, the PNC resolutions concentrated on achieving a strategic cohesion between revolutionary Syria and the PLO because they both face the vicious imperialist-Zionist onslaught aimed at entrenching Israeli occupation of the Arab territories and imposing U.S. hegemony over the entire region.

When 'Arafat visited Cairo and began a dialogue with Husayn to establish a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation, which constitutes a cover for authorizing the Jordanian regime to represent the Palestinian people, as well as being a new prelude to the proposed Hashemite Jordanian Kingdom plan — a plan that was rejected by the Palestinian masses — these two visits revealed a sharp difference between 'Arafat's course and that of the rest of the resistance factions. Syria suggested that the Palestinians should reach agreement on a political course for the forthcoming stage to avoid a division in the Palestinian arena that would only benefit the imperialist-Zionist enemy. While Syria was calling for establishing a unified Palestinian struggle stand based on resisting capitulationist designs, Husayn adopted a number of measures that were all aimed at weakening the PLO. The most prominent measure was reviving the Jordanian Parliament, which includes representatives from the West Bank and Gaza Strip. This takes the situation back to what it was before the Rabat summit which reinforced the exclusive Palestinian representation. Husayn then restored relations with Mubarak, who reiterated his commitment to the Camp David course.

Instead of denouncing the Jordanian regime's course, 'Arafat blessed it and intensified his negotiations with Husayn. He even illegally called for convening the PNC in Amman, thus disregarding the fact that this move means open, actual recognition of Husayn's course, and standing indifferent to the threat of division in the Palestinian arena. Although all the resistance factions voiced their opposition and although many Arab sides warned of the consequences of 'Arafat's move on the PLO's unity, we find that Husayn and 'Arafat are continuing to prepare for Palestinian dismemberment as if that has become their objective. Instead of exerting efforts to achieve a unified Palestinian stand, we find Husayn and 'Arafat uniting their efforts to confront Syria because it continues to bear the burden of defending the Palestinian issue and its actual, legitimate objectives.

Khalid Bakdash on Communist Party Activites

For the Moscow *PRAVDA* article by Khalid Bakdash, general secretary of the Communist Party of Syria Central Committee, on the party's past and present activities, see the Middle East & North Africa section of the 21 November Soviet Union *DAILY REPORT*.

Comparison of Al-Asad French Radio Interview

Damascus SANA in Arabic at 0900 GMT on 19 November carries the "text" of the Paris Radio interview with President Hafiz al-Asad. The SANA version has been compared to the Paris Domestic Service in French version published in the 19 November Middle East and Africa *DAILY REPORT*, beginning on page H 1, revealing the following variations:

Page H 2, paragraph two, line one the SANA version reads: ...[Question] Does this mean, Mr President, that you condemn any act of terrorism. I would say...(providing missing words)

Same page, paragraph three, penultimate line the SANA version reads: ...against all aggressions. [new paragraph] [Balta] Mr President, at...(omitting paragraphs four through six, which are not included in the SANA version)

Page H 3, paragraph two, antepenultimate line the SANA version reads: ...Now do you erase these conflicts with one stroke of your pen while you are aware that the two countries were really...(supplying variant translation)

Same page, paragraph thirteen, line one the SANA version reads: ...in the south. This comparison is incomprehensible to us in Syria or in the Arab homeland. It should not be comprehensible to French citizens who...(omitting paragraphs fourteen through sixteen and providing alternative translation)

Page H 4, paragraph one, penultimate line the SANA version reads: ...an attitude damaging to the sovereignty and its meaning in Syria and also to the sovereignty and it meaning in Lebanon. [new paragraph] You want to...(providing variant translation)

Same page, paragraph nine, line one the SANA version reads: ...me to say that despite everything and on several occasions ...(providing indistinct words)

Same page, paragraph ten, line three the SANA version reads: ...in these countries — the peoples of these countries...(clearing queried words)

Same page, paragraph twelve, line two the SANA version reads: ...strategy is realistic [straiijiyat al-mar al-waqi'] and that it will enable the Palestinian people to attain their rights? [new paragraph] [Al-Asad]...(providing variant translation, vernacular)

Same page, paragraph thirteen, line two the SANA version reads: ...this is where they disagree. [new paragraph] [Question] This is...(providing variant translation)

Same page, last paragraph, last line the SANA version reads: ...existence of Israel? [new page] [Al-Asad] In your question, you have divided or rather disfigured the UN resolutions. We support and approve...(omitting lines not included in SANA version)

Page H 5, paragraph four, penultimate line the SANA version reads: ...unleashed between one Arab regime and Iran, and this certainly...(providing indistinct words)

Same page, paragraph seven, line two the SANA version reads: ...also was a secular regime that tended to modernism, and I think...(providing variant translation)

Same page, paragraph nine, line thirteen the SANA version reads: ...their rights and their sacred places. Another regime, thanks...(providing indistinct word)

Same paragraph, penultimate line the SANA version reads: ...such important things. [new paragraph] It is unnatural for us to ignore such important issues and to care about issues that do not concern us. Of course, in...(supplying variant translation)

Page H 6, paragraph three is not carried in the SANA version.

Fourth Round of Al-Naqurah Talks Begins

TA210853 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0837 GMT 21 Nov 84

[Text] The fourth round of Al-Naqurah talks began several minutes ago. The first item on the agenda is Lebanon's request that only two weekly meetings be held. The Israeli delegation rejects this request. This was reported by our correspondent from Al-Naqurah, Nitzan Horowitz.

UNIFIL Deployment on Agenda

TA210919 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 21 Nov 84

[Text] The fourth round of talks between IDF and Lebanese Army officers began 1 hour ago in Al-Naqurah. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the item on the agenda at the beginning of the session is the deployment of UNIFIL in the area that will be evacuated by the IDF. The head of the Lebanese delegation, General al-Hajj, conferred yesterday with Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami. At the beginning of the talks he said that Lebanon firmly rejects the implicit threat in Israel's statement that it will take unilateral steps if the negotiations fail. The head of the Israeli delegation reiterated his warning to the Lebanese that Israel will not accept procrastination in the talks.

Foiling of Talks Charged

TA211028 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1015 GMT 21 Nov 84

[Text] The Lebanese delegation to the Al-Naqurah talks is accusing the Israeli delegation of foiling the talks, saying that the Israelis are reneging on agreements reached in earlier talks. The Lebanese claim that the fact that Israel does not agree to the Lebanese Army deploying in certain areas close to the international boder is injurious to their sovereignty. This morning Lebanon's General al-Hajj demanded that Israel present a detailed timetable for its withdrawal. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the session is currently in recess and the Israeli delegation is presently consulting on how to react to Lebanon's contentions.

Spokesman Responds

TA211141 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1100 GMT 21 Nov 84

[Text] The spokesman of the Lebanese delegation to the military talks in Al-Naqurah claims that the Israeli delegation is not acting to promote the deliberations. The Lebanese spokesman expressed discontent and disappointment with the Israeli position as presented in the talks. In reaction, Israeli elements claim that issues which have already been concluded were not raised anew in the talks today. Our correspondent Nitzan Horowitz is reporting from Al-Naqurah:

The spokesman of the Lebanese delegation to the Al-Naqurah talks expressed discontent and disappointment with the Israeli stance, and claimed that Israel has gone back on agreements already achieved in the past. The Lebanese spokesman referred to three spheres:

A. Israel's demands for a UNIFIL deployment in the area which the IDF will evacuate in the Al-Awwali region. B. Israel's opposition to the entry of the Lebanese Army into the Hasbayya region, claiming that it is too close to the international border. C. Israel's attempt, as he put it, to renew the discussion of formal issues which had already been agreed upon in the first meeting.

[Begin recording of unidentified Lebanese spokesman's remarks in English] The behavior of the Israeli delegation does not seem to be positive to push the negoitations forward by these questions. [end recording]

The Israeli delegation, the Lebanese spokesman claimed, is not working to promote the discussions on these questions. The Israeli delegation's reaction was cited by Yona Gazit, the delegation's spokesman:

[Begin Gazit recording] We answered their questions one by one, and repeated the basic principles which have led to our presence here — the first being that we have come, at the invitation of the UN secretary general, to discuss security arrangements for the peace of northern Israel, as well as the IDF withdrawal. These two goals are inseparable. [end recording]

Israel, so we have learned, wants a larger and more effective UN force which will help guarantee the security of the northern region which the IDF will evacuate.

Lebanese Deployment Rejected

TA211225 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 21 Nov 84

[Text] Today the Israeli delegation presented the detailed plan for security arrangements in the northern area between the Al-Awwali and the Al-Zahrani Rivers. According to the plan, UNIFIL will deploy in that area, but Israel will not object to an incorporation of the Lebanese Army in the UNIFIL forces. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the head of the Israeli delegation turned down the demand by the Lebanese Army that it be allowed to enter areas south of this sector, as Israel first wants to conclude the arrangements in the northern area.

Peres Hosts Gathering of Eight Arab Mayors

TA210728 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 21 Nov 84 p 2

[Asher Wallfish report]

[Text] Eight Israeli Arab mayors came out of a two-hour meeting with Prime Minister Shim'on Peres and Minister Without Portfolio 'Ezer Weizman yesterday, saying they were very pleased with the promises of increased financial aid, a more sympathetic attitude at top levels, and the possibility that the post of adviser to the prime minister on Arab affairs would be abolished.

The mayors said that in order to bring the infrastructure in Arab local authorities up to the level in Jewish localities, as much as $8 million would be required over a period of eight years.

Peres said that for every shekel that Arab residents would raise themselves, the Treasury should, in his opinion, contribute two shekels.

Nazareth Mayor Tawfiq Zayyad said no Israeli prime minister had ever hosted a gathering of Arab mayors and the meeting was a historic one. Zayyad, a leading Arab Communist and an MK [Knesset Member] for the Democratic Front for Peace and Equality, said: "Our destiny as Israeli citizens was determined for us many years ago, and it is a destiny which we not only accept, but also desire."

Weizman told the mayors that in the future, Arab citizens should handle their affairs in government offices directly, without going through the prime minister's adviser.

Peres said: "My bureau is the bureau of every Israeli citizen and will always remain open to you."

Further Reportage on Impending PNC Session

Syrian Threats Predicted

TA201241 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1233 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] The PNC which will convene in Jordan in about 2 days will not make decisions on negotiations with Israel. This was estimated today by senior Jerusalem sources. The Council will again reject UN Resolution 242 and the Reagan plan, and will again uphold the Fes and the Brezhnev plans for the Middle East. Our Arab affairs correspondent, Eldar Beck, reports that Jerusalem sources believe that Syria will try to threaten Jordan in the course of the PNC meeting by military maneuvers or the movement of forces toward the Jordanian-Syrian border.

Knesset Committee Views Meeting

TA201657 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Major General Ehud Baraq, the chief of the IDF Intelligence Branch, today replied to questions on Lebanon, Egypt, and the possibility of negotiations with Jordan, presented by members of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. A discussion developed about the political importance of the convening of the PNC in Amman. Our correspondent Ilana Dayan reports that the committee members by and large believe that the very fact that the PNC is meeting, and judging by the number of participants, can be seen as a lever for 'Arafat to regain legitimacy within the PLO ranks.

'Senior Sources' Assess PNC

TA201740 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Report by Arab affairs correspondent Eldad Beck — recorded]

[Text] Despite the official statements by the Democratic Alliance organization — members of the Habash and Hawatimah organizations, and the Communists — that they will not go to Amman and by so doing will prevent 'Arafat from achieving a quorum to convene the PNC, it appears that the Kremlin leaders' attempts to persuade their allies to send second- or third-string delegates to the session will be successful, at least in regard to the Communists and Hawatimah's men. Despite the signed and proclaimed alliance with Damascus, Moscow wants its PLO satellites to be independent, not under Syrian patronage, so that its own influence will not diminish.

Thus, less than 48 hours prior to the beginning of the deliberations in Amman, there is little doubt that 'Arafat will manage to obtain the necessary quorum, or two-thirds of the 384 deputies, if only at the price of gimmicks such as using the signatures of representatives from the West Bank, or alternatively by expelling the Al-Sa'iqah and Jibril rejectionist delegates and appointing new members in their place.

Senior sources in Jerusalem said this evening that anyone who believes that 'Arafat and the PNC will become more flexible vis-a-vis Israel, against the background of the imminent split in the PLO and the growing closeness between Egypt and Jordan, is deluding himself. The opinions expressed by Raymonda al-Tawil and Hanna Sanyura, both 'Arafat supporters in Judaea and Samaria, namely that Fatah is about to moderate its policy — either publicly or discreetly — were intended, in the opinion of the sources, to please Israeli and international public opinion, but nothing more.

This assessment gained further corroboration by the militaristic declarations made by the PLO spokesmen, and the official statements made by 'Arafat's deputy, Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], who told correspondents in the Gulf area: The PLO will not adopt any resolution that will conflict with our demand for an independent Palestinian state. This declaration was made because the PLO chief, whose status will be undermined in the wake of a split, does not want to brand himself a traitor to the Palestinian cause, if he indeed grants Jordan some sort of mandate to speak on behalf of the Palestinians. The rejectionist organizations — orchestrated by Syria — have been claiming just that.

One must also remember that the choice of Amman as the venue for the session was made for lack of any other choice, not as one political alternative out of many.

Incidentally, it is believed that Syria will express its unequivocal opposition to 'Arafat's meeting which heralds the inevitable split; and to Jordan, by way of moving military forces in the direction of the two countries' common border, as a kind of threatening hint of what could happen if the 'Arafat-Husayn cart embarks on the path of negotiations with Israel.

One can safely assume that Husayn for one is not so naive as to believe a change is forthcoming, and furthermore he is not interested in watching the PLO gain an enhanced political position right now because of his hesitations about whether or not to join the Middle East circle of peace.

Husayn will thus prefer to count on 'Arafat's rejectionism, although in the long term, a divided and weakened PLO could become more flexible in regard to the king's famous plan for a confederation on the two banks of the Jordan River.

West Bank Opinion Divided

TA201519 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1350 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Nabulus, 20 Nov (ITIM) — The split within the PLO can be seen in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza District as well, and tension between the supporters of the various factions is mounting as the date for the PNC meeting in Amman draws nearer.

The ITIM correspondent reports that two voices can be discerned in both articles in the East Jerusalem press and in meetings held throughout Judaea and Samaria. They are divided between the fervent supporters of Yasir 'Arafat and the supporters of Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], who is pro-Syrian and whose objection to the PNC session is inspired by Syria.

The East Jerusalem *AL-MITHAQ — THE CHARTER* — publishes words of support for Abu Musa by extremists in the West Bank, such as deposed Mayors Karim Khalaf of Ramallah, Ibrahim al-Tawil of Al-Birah, Bassam al-Shak'ah of Nabulus, and former 'Anabta Mayor Wahid 'Abdallah. On the other hand, *Al-FAJR* and *AL-SHA'B* run daily statements of support for PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat, on behalf of Judaea and Samaria bodies, institutions, municipalities, and rural councils.

Great tension can be felt in that region's universities between the supporters of the various factions, and it has even reached open hostility. In Al-Birah University, for example, meetings were held in two different auditoriums — one by groups sympathetic to 'Arafat, and another by groups opposed to him. Tension could be felt on the campus during those meetings, and it was only sheer luck that the students did not resort to violence.

The inhabitants of the territories are following the opening of the PNC with great interest. Representatives from the area who wanted to leave in order to participate were refused permission by the Civilian Administration.

West Bank Groups Organizing

TA201429 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 20 Nov 84 p 4

[Pinhas 'Inbari report]

[Text] Political forces in the West Bank are organizing for the political battle expected in the territories. In this respect, former Area Village League leaders have met in order to discuss resuming activity by the leagues which were disbanded by the Civilian Administration.

The meeting was attended by Mustafa Dudin, former head of the Hebron Area Village League; Jamil al-'Amlah, head of the Hebron Area Village League; and Riyad al-Khatib, head of the Ramallah Area Village League. Bishara Qimsiyah, the former head of the Bethlehem Area Village League, is in prison after being convicted of committing various offenses related to his office.

The participants decided to approach the former leaders of the village leagues in order to interest them in renewing the federation. It is not clear whether the meeting in Ramallah was coordinated with the Civilian Administration. As mentioned above, the Civilian Administration disbanded the leagues about 6 months ago. Former members of the leagues who object to this meeting will participate in a meeting today in Jerusalem with "Peace Now," "Haderekh Lashalom," ["The Road to Peace"], and "Netivot Shalom," ["The Path of Peace;" a dovish religious group]. These dignitaries, Muhammad al-Nasir and Dr Statiyya of Janin, want to organize within a different framework. At the time, the Civilian Administration did not view this attempt favorably.

The supporters of the United National Front within the PLO are also making contacts in order to present a consolidated group which will be called the national bloc. They will express firm opposition to Yasir 'Arafat's moves and to various topics on the agenda. They firmly oppose the convening of the PNC in Amman.

The national bloc will be composed of Syrian supporters and particularly supporters of George Habash and Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha]. The supporters of the Democratic Front [led by Nayif Hawatimah] and the Communists will not participate in this bloc. This development will end the divisions among the leftist supporters of the former National Guidance Committee in the West Bank.

HA'ARETZ on PNC

TA201231 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 20 Nov 84 p 9

[Dan Margalit commentary: "Observing the Husayn-'Arafat Axis"]

[Text] When the French-Libyan contacts on the Chad affair began, the PLO officials in Paris learned that the attitude of the Quai d'Orsay toward them had changed. The French External Relations Ministry officials were no longer as amiable as they had previously been, although, theoretically, there had been no change in President Mitterrand's policy. They wanted to learn what the reason for the short circuit was: Was it a surrender to Al-Qadhdhafi's dictates? The French retorted with: By what authority does the PLO claim to be the exclusive representative of the Palestinians? The PLO understood both the hint and the size of the problem they were facing. Without Beirut and Tripoli and without a PNC, the group surrounding Yasir 'Arafat would be nothing but an aging group of troublesome political exiles. Therefore, something had to be done.

'Arafat had definite hopes which ran aground. He disclosed to his friends who are affiliated with Israel that he hoped George Habash would finally consent to participate in the Council which would renew the PLO's leadership mandate. He saw Habash as "a legitimate Palestinian opposition member." He did not want Ahmad Jibril or Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], whom he regards as dangerous Syrian agents. Deep in his heart he hoped that Prime Minister Peres and Defense Minister Rabin would allow the Palestinians in Judaea and Samaria to take part in the PNC deliberations, and again he was disappointed. Still, the burning question which arose in Paris — a question which was repeated in various forms inside his camp and in other capitals

— did not let him be. 'Arafat understood that he had to convene the PNC, even if at the expense of the danger of a split in the PLO, and do so in the only capital which consented to host him, King Husayn's capital.

The Israelis are now closely following the preparations for the Amman meeting. On the political, decisionmaking level in Jerusalem, I found a uniform assessment that ultimately these two horses, Husayn's and 'Arafat's, will not be able to pull their cart together. While the PLO leader said that he and Husayn are acting as two sailors rowing the same boat, Israel believes that this picturesque description is incompatible with the political reality. This is the point of departure which clarifies why there is no noticeable excitement in Israel in view of the return to Amman of the man who was expelled from Jordan in September 1970 and who promised to avenge every drop of Palestinian blood shed by the Jordanian legion soldiers.

The conception held at the political level in Jerusalem derives from the assessments of experts, but there is no uniform approach here. Alongside those who led the government to believe that 'Arafat will not achieve an arrangement with Jordan as a result of the PLO-Fatah meeting in Amman, there are those knowledgeable sources who believe that 'Arafat, the main loser in the Lebanese war and a disappointed and experienced man, is now prepared to put up with a new development: the aim toward an arrangement which will grant him official status equal to that of the king, with each Palestinian district — be it autonomous or independent — being subordinate to Husayn. The two conceptions held by the Israeli experts have not yet clashed since the arrangement seems to be far off.

Therefore, Israel can not only remain nonchalant regarding the Palestinian deliberations in Amman, but also present to the Western diplomatic community a pacifying formula. The Peres government — *THE JERUSALEM POST* editor Erwin Frenkel wrote last Friday — has erased from its vocabulary all the spirits and demons of the Likud government. Satan and demons must be exorcised, liquidated, fought to the bitter end, while it is possible to handle problems, difficulties, and challenges. This is not a mere semantic difference, but primarily a difference of approach and thought processes.

The new style Peres has introduced into Israeli political life enables the government to avoid exposing the Palestinian meeting in Jordan as a scheme for the annihilation of the Jewish people, and present it as a political event which requires a close followup. The policy guiding the prime minister and defense minister is that of encouraging quick or immediate negotiations, combined with cautious and well considered studies — to enable each party to place any issue on the agenda, but with the understanding that Israel will open by presenting the Camp David accords. This line is shared also by Yitzhaq Shamir and David Levi.

Nevertheless, moderates in Jerusalem do not hold out too much hope for a breakthrough. Husayn repeated to the Americans, who asked him to follow in Anwar al-Sadat's footsteps, that Jordan is neither a major state like Egypt nor does it enjoy U.S. support for such a move. In recent months Husayn has also begun to fear for his life, particularly from the direction of Syria. To solve this problem, he signalled that Jordan is expecting an Israeli-U.S. guarantee against a possible Syrian military action against his kingdom. Can Israel credibly repeat the army maneuvers it carried out in broad daylight in September 1970 as a deterrent to Syria?

Jerusalem knew that the king was seeking such combined guarantees from Israel and the United States and also understood his motives. It may well be that Israel's policy on this is unchanged, and the soon r the IDF withdraws from Lebanon, the more credibility will be attached to Israel's readiness to use its forces to prevent any anti-Amman activity by Damascus. However, two facts overshadow the possible strategic understanding: A. Despite all the hopes and encouragement by both Israel and the United States, the king is not coming to the negotiating table; he will neither try to reach a long-term arrangement with Israel nor set up a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to begin a dialogue; B. The other fact is that in the meantime PLO people have begun returning to Jordan.

The concentration of PLO people in Jordan, including 'Arafat's men who do not accept any conciliatory line on their side, renews the threat of katyushas on Israeli settlements along the border with Jordan. Since the upcoming PNC meeting will not change the Charter, which calls for the liquidation of Israel — and all signs indicate that 'Arafat has neither the moral authority nor the political ability to do so — his people who are returning to Jordan will have renewed permission to harass Israel with katyushas. This will make any dynamic of approaching the negotiating table more difficult, whatever the criteria or agenda set for the negotiations, and however difficult they may prove to be.

In this context, Rabin issued an appropriate public warning to Husayn, in addition to one which was not made public. So far, however, the king has wanted to have the best of both worlds: to receive U.S. and Israeli guarantees against Syria; to host Yasir 'Arafat in his capital but not reach an agreement with him; and to hope that 'Arafat will continue to hold onto the Palestinian Charter.

Thus, in keeping with his loyalty to the Arab cause, Husayn will avoid the need to enter negotiations with Israel; simultaneously, he will direct the energies of the 'Arafat people who return to his kingdom away from the royal palace and against the Bet She'an valley settlements, which have not experienced shellings and terrorists' infiltrations for the last decade. This Israel will not allow him to do.

King Husayn has quite a few fears and hesitations, some real and some mere excuses. Jordan has not stopped claiming that Ari'el Sharon's presence in the national unity government proves that Israel's policy is to encourage the establishment of "an alternative homeland" to the Palestinians in place of Husayn's kingdom. Nevertheless, the king is now facing a difficult decision. He cannot ignore the fact that the current government is the last hope for a dialogue; that relatively quietly this government has refrained from provocations and has significantly slowed down settlement in Judaea and Samaria; and that this government includes people — not all of them, but there are also some Likud members in addition to Alignment and Shinuy members — who are prepared to begin a dialogue.

It could therefore be disastrous for both parties if the PNC ends with a convoluted decision, instead of one authorizing the formation of an Arab delegation for talks, something which is awaited by many among the Israeli public and government.

PNC Politics Causes Disturbances at University

TA211310 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 21 Nov 84

[Text] At Bi'r Zayt University a student was killed and six students and an IDF officer were wounded. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that disturbances began in the university after the students marched in a demonstration in support of the PNC meeting. They threw stones at workers of the Public Works Department and the security forces. An IDF officer was wounded by one of the stones and was taken to a hospital. The security forces fired shots in the air and then at the feet of the demonstrators. At present the area is calm.

Curfew Imposed

TA211418 Tel Aviv IDF In Hebrew 1416 GMT 21 Nov 84

[Text] Curfew has been imposed in the Bi'r Zayt University area. At present there is calm in the area, following violent disturbances of local students. This is an update by our correspondent Gil Ronen.

Military, Economic Committees Continue Talks

TA201344 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 20 Nov 84 p 1

[Tzvi Bar'el "exclusive" report from Washington]

[Excerpts] Yesterday the Israeli-U.S. joint military and economic committees met for the first time. During the morning the delegation leaders met with Secretary of State Shultz, who expressed his concern over the Israeli economy, and his hope that the joint teams will come up with successful ideas to solve the problems. Later the two committees met separately and began initial discussions.

Israeli sources said: "We will have to work hard to convince the Americans that our plans will indeed bring about recovery and that we mean business. After all, they had quite a few disappointments from us on this issue."

Yesterday the Israeli representatives, led by Finance Ministry Director General 'Imanu'el Sharon, the accountant-general, and the head of the Bank of Israel Research Department, briefed the Americans on the Israeli economic situation and the steps taken by the Israeli Government so far. The U.S. representatives, Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs Allen Wallis and Peter McPherson, head of the U.S. Agency for International Development; were also briefed in general terms on the goal to change the structure of the Israeli economy.

More detailed discussions were held by the military committee, headed by Defense Ministry Director General Menahem Meron; Major General Menahem 'Eynan, head of the IDF Planning Branch; and the military attache. The discussions concerned the possibility of broadening the scope of strategic cooperation, increasing U.S. procurement from Israel, defining the nature of U.S. procurement during the first 3 months of the next year (amounting to $100 million), and extending the scope of U.S. Army procurement for its bases outside the United States. During future talks there will be discussions on freeing additional sums of money from the aid grant for the purpose of Israeli procurement. The military delegation has also brought with it a 5-year procurement plan which includes more F-16 jets, sophisticated radar systems manufactured by General Electric, and special devices for electronic warfare. This is in addition to requesting improved Sidewinder missiles and strengthening intelligence and technological cooperation.

The meetings will end tomorrow afternoon and on Wednesday the delegations will return to Israel. Foreign Ministry sources said that they expect another meeting to be held on the economic issue in 1 month. This will be a broad meeting including congressmen, Knesset members, and outside experts who will all participate along lines set in today's meetings.

Aid Talks Conclude

TA210715 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 21 Nov 84

[Text] Two days of aid and military talks between Israeli and American officials have ended in Washington. Details from Connie Lonn in the U.S. capital:

[Begin recording] The talks which were held at the State Department were kept as private as possible. Officials indicate the matters will be discussed in a more public forum when Foreign Minister Shamir returns to Washington in December to hold meetings with top Reagan administration officials. Sources confirm part of the discussions focused on the $700 million in increased aid Israel will request from the United States for next year. This will increase the $1.4 billion military level by about 50 percent, if approved by the Americans. An additional $1.5 billion in economic aid over the next 2 years was also raised. This could increase the current $2.6 billion in American aid to $4 billion — again, if it is approved.

It may be difficult to get the increase from the Reagan administration, which is in the process of cutting its domestic budget. But the Secretary of State Shultz has indicated he favors a 50 percent increase in aid to Israel and to Egypt. In addition, the United States may try to sell more sophisticated weapons to Saudi Arabia and Jordan. If it does, then Israel can argue it needs more money to maintain its qualitative edge.

Officials indicated such matters were also raised in the defense talks led by General Menahem Meron, director general of the Defense Ministry, but they refused to give details, saying the defense talks were even more sensitive than the economic ones.

The financial talks were led by 'Imanu'el Sharon, the director general of the Finance Ministry. [end recording]

Rabin to U.S. in January To Discuss Military Aid
TA201456 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 20 Nov 84 p 1

[Amir Oren "exclusive" report from the United States]

[Text] Washington — Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin will visit Washington at the end of January for talks with the United States, which is expected to give its reply to Israel's various defense requests.

During his visit to Israel last month, U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger invited Rabin to pay a reciprocal visit, but Rabin preferred to wait until the Reagan administration's second-term Cabinet was determined. In the wake of Weinberger's statement last week that he would remain in office, it is assumed that Rabin's visit will take place within 2 months, close to the date of the President's inauguration and Congress' return from its recess.

Until then, U.S. and Israeli teams will hold discussions. The first of these discussions was held yesterday and today; the highlight was the IDF's procurement plans and the scope of military aid needed to finance them.

The Israeli representatives are seeking compensation for $300 million which was, as it were, cut from last year's military aid when the total sum of $1.7 billion — half of which was to have been given as a grant — was turned into a grant of $1.4 billion.

Israel is seeking $2 billion in aid but wants $300 million (in addition to the above $1.7 billion) to be regarded as a one-time addition and not to be a precedent for coming years.

Weizman, Basyuni Discuss Bilateral Relations
TA201756 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] In Jerusalem this evening, Minister 'Ezer Weizman conferred with Egyptian Charge d'Affaires in Israel Muhammad Basyuni. Shim'on Schiffer reports that the two men discussed the promotion of Egyptian-Israeli relations.

Positions on Tabah Controversy Analyzed
TA201636 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 20 Nov 84 pp 9, 10

[Hagay Eshed commentary: "Three Hold on to Tabah"]

[Text] There is absolutely no doubt that the Tabah problem is the easiest to solve in comparison to the other problems in Israeli-Egyptian relations. This is all the more so in relation to the overall Israeli-Arab conflict. It is a problem which has been thoroughly studied, and its solution could begin and end within a relatively short period of time, if all sides are interested in a solution; that is, if it is worth their while, if the benefits of solving the problem do not demand a price that Israel and Egypt are unwilling, or unable, to pay. As it is fashionable to say nowadays: We have here a problem of costs and benefits. There are also problems of priorities, timing, and method. Three problems which are almost one. And there are also personal problems.

Prime Minister Shim'on Peres wants to advance the marooned peace process; to renew Israeli-Egyptian dialogue on all issues and at all levels; to begin dialogue in the near future at the highest level — through a summit meeting between himself and President Mubarak — and to continue it at all other levels and regarding all issues — administrative, civilian, governmental, and private. As an opening step he wants to start by resolving the Tabah dispute — which is the easiest to solve, as said.

The Tabah beach has the potential for economic cooperation through tourism. If the sides want to they can initiate joint projects and coexistence for Israelis, Egyptians, and various international factors. At the same time, they can attempt to solve the problem of sovereignty through the method stipulated in the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty. After direct negotiations have failed, conciliation can be attempted (non-binding mediation, which tries to achieve a compromise acceptable to both sides). If conciliation fails, arbitration can be attempted, in which case the arbitrator decides the solution. If the joint projects and coexistence are initiated beforehand, then the sides can risk arbitration. But this must take place only after conciliation and after the joint projects go into effect. This is what is known as a calculated risk. It can be assumed that this is more or less Shim'on Peres' attitude to solving the problem.

The attitude of Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir is different. He does not see any point in separating the issue of Tabah from the overall framework of Israeli-Egyptian relations and from the need to revive the Israeli-Egyptian agreement in its entirety, particularly the normalization clauses which Egypt committed itself to uphold but failed to keep time and time again. Why make concessions regarding the Tabah issue without the Egyptians giving anything in return on the other issues? This is what Yitzhaq Shamir might well ask. And his answer is that Israel must negotiate over everything and that no Israeli demand should be given up in advance, not even Menahem Begin's demand that the negotiations be held in Jerusalem.

Yitzhaq Shamir will also be able to claim that the national unity government was established in order to resolve the economic crisis — inflation, the balance of payments deficit, the threat of unemployment — and the problem of withdrawing from Lebanon. Regarding all the other issues, such as Israeli-Egyptian relations, negotiations with Jordan, the settlements and the future of the territories — it is necessary to maintain the status quo and not make any changes without prior agreement between the two main partners — the Alignment and the Likud. This is a government based on parity. This is why the national unity government was established and this is what its existence and normal functioning hinges on.

This is very difficult, naturally. Life does not stand still. The Americans do not accept the present situation. They are interested in thawing the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty. They need a cosmetic improvement of Egypt's image in the eyes of Congress, which is responsible for the foreign aid budget. They want to push Mubarak into renewing the peace process, even if he, for his part, wants to delay the peace process until there is more progress in the process of returning Egypt to the Arab world: First Iraq, then Saudi Arabia, Morocco, and all the rest. It is doubtful whether Mubarak needs a solution of the Tabah problem which

would involve Egyptian concessions. However, progress toward a resolution of the Tabah dispute can supply Israel and Egypt with the necessary time-out — the bridge on which the two will be able to start moving toward the other, without delaying other processes in other directions.

The man who complicates the situation on the Israeli side of the equation and who tips the balance on the current Israeli political scene is 'Ezer Weizman. He wants to facilitate the peace process with Egypt and, this notwithstanding, he wants the "national unity government" to be dissolved. From his viewpoint it is a "deep freeze government," both in regard to peace with Egypt and himself personally. 'Ezer Weizman prefers a narrow government without the Likud, in which he would be able to fulfill the role for which he established Yahad and campaigned independently during the election campaign.

Perhaps there is nothing wrong with this. Not for this, however, was the national unity government established. Not in order to have it dissolved against the background of Tabah. Not before it has begun to pass its main test — restoring the economy while minimizing and softening the extent of the damages and suffering to those who are unemployed or fired, and the public at large. Is this indeed the right time to make Tabah our prime concern? This will be what the government and its leader will ask, if it indeed falls.

Perhaps the political process cannot wait until the problem of Israel's ailing economy is solved. In order both to promote peace and prevent crises and pressures in our relations with the Americans, perhaps we should take the initiative. Such a move and such a change should be done through an agreement and understanding between Shim'on Peres and Yitzhaq Shamir, not through the maneuvers of 'Ezer Weizman. It is no secret that Yitzhaq Shamir is not the boss in the Likud, and especially not in Herut. He is now taking the first steps in that direction (by means of reviving the Herut executive). Only after he strengthens his position will he perhaps be able to make concessions and changes in the political positions which he himself supported when he was prime minister and foreign minister, and on issues for which he is responsible as foreign minister and vice prime minister. If Yitzhaq Shamir agrees to facilitate the process, meaning he agrees to change his present positions, this must be done by him and must be seen to be done by him, and not as something which was forced on him by 'Ezer Weizman or even Shim'on Peres.

Personal considerations stood in the way of the national unity government's establishment and continue to impede it constantly. It will suffice to mention the examples of David Levi and Ari'el Sharon. On the Alignment's side there were also formidable personal considerations which must not be overlooked. Policy is implemented by people, and personal problems are sometimes political problems of the utmost importance. They constitute part of the overall tally of costs and benefits, priorities, timing, and method. And by the way, Mubarak too has personal problems — if and when and at what costs to hold a summit meeting with Peres.

Grenade Thrown at Home of Former Mayor

TA210723 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 21 Nov 84

[Text] This morning a Molotov cocktail was hurled at the home of Ramallah Mayor [as heard] Karim Khalaf. His car was damaged in the explosion. Our correspondent Arye Gus believes that the act is connected with the PNC meeting. There is much tension prevailing in the territories, and four students were wounded yesterday in fistfights between 'Arafat supporters and opponents. In an interview on Jordanian television last night Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], 'Arafat's deputy, rapped Karim Khalaf and other notables who condemned the PNC meeting in Amman.

Police Raid Money Changers in West Bank

TA201827 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Samaria police today raided money changers in Nabulus, Tulkarm, Qalqilyah, and Janin. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that 74 money changers were checked and 19 of them were found to be operating without a license. Four of them were found possessing illegal currency and the money was confiscated. The transgressors will be tried at the military court in Nabulus.

Economic Development of West Bank Urged

TA201611 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 20 Nov 84 p 9

[Third and last of a series of Dani Rubinstein commentaries: "Ideas for Development as Opposed to Imminent Unemployment"]

[Text] The idea of developing the economy of the West Bank and Gaza by establishing a bank, developing services, and setting up several plants immediately provoked an uproar among members of Tehiya, Gush Emunim, and probably many members of the Herut movement. All of them regard any Arab child who throws a stone as a potential terrorist and demand that his house be demolished and his family deported. By the same token, they view every Arab plant, road, or house as the infrastructure for a Palestinian state. It is impossible to argue with those who subscribe to this opinion, because theirs is merely a more refined version of Kahane's position. Those who subscribe to it are looking for a way to expel the Arabs through less brutal means than those proposed by Kahane.

Finding a convenient and fair economic solution for the territories is the problem facing those who believe that the State of Israel will have to live for many years alongside a large Arab-Palestinian population which will constitute 30 to 50 percent of the inhabitants of western Eretz Yisra'el (depending on the demographic developments on both sides). Therefore, the socioeconomic advancement and development of the Arab population may be a decisive factor in determining relationships between the two nations.

It is commonly believed that prosperity, the encouragement of affluence, and socioeconomic advancement and development may alleviate national tensions. This does not guarantee peace

between Jews and Arabs, but it is absolutely clear that a policy of economic oppression and the use of colonial methods to block development in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip are a foolproof recipe for catastrophe.

Israel is an economic superpower compared to the backward and provincial West Bank and Gaza Strip. To this day, electricity consumption in all the territories approximately equals that of Ashqelon's industrial zone, and the number of telephones is close to that in 'Afula's dialing area. Many people believe that the policy in effect since 1967 — to protect Israeli industries by banning the establishment of rival enterprises in Nabulus and Gaza — is distorted and not only sabotages the economy of the territories but also that of Israel, which is being protected artificially. Those who enjoy such protection in Israel are those with political muscle: some agricultural sectors and their complementary industries and various production plants. In contrast, the weak sectors — such as Israel's cottage industries — are exposed to their competitors in the West Bank and Gaza. Arab businessmen repeatedly say that they do not need Israeli help, they just want permission to invest, produce, and build as they wish rather than being totally exposed to Israeli products at a time when they are not permitted, through various means, to sell their products to Israel.

The current situation is that approximately 1.3 million Arabs in the territories are "captive consumers" in the hands of Israeli industries and importers, and this situation distorts and destroys Israel's economy. Permission to establish development plants, an infrastructure, and services in the territories may slightly harm Israel's economy but the long-term advantages of such a move are immense.

Propitious conditions may now have been created for developing the economy in the territories and, if missed, the consequences might be serious. In the wake of the world oil crisis, the economic slowdown in Amman, and the acute recession in Israel, large pockets of unemployment might be created in the West Bank and Gaza. Thousands of unemployed in Hebron, Ramallah, and the refugee camps in the Gaza Strip might become politically explosive if a solution is not found. And the solution can only be one: allowing foreign Arab capital to flow into the territories in order to establish plants and develop services without fear of the monstrous myth called "Palestinian infrastructure," which is largely imaginary.

The current political climate favors such a move. The Arab world is split and does not pose the immediate acute threat to Israel as in the past. This leads to a calm atmosphere in the territories. Any possible political initiatives by the new U.S. Administration would be countered by development projects in the territories and with a more forthcoming policy on the part of the Israeli Government. The latter would not just reject any proposals addressed to it but would also offer constructive ideas.

The economic development proposals also entail partial political solutions: the rehabilitation of the refugee camps in the territories, the construction of a port (and perhaps even a free trade zone) in Gaza which may be used by Jordan in the future, and other notions which have often been discussed in the past but have not yet materialized.

This will not solve the problem and the "rejectionist fronts" ranging from Ahmad Jibril to the settlers' underground will regard them as national catastrophes. This will relieve the distress of many Israelis and Palestinians, however, distress which is now intensifying and which might ultimately exacerbate the deterioration and suffering.

I cannot but finish this article with the pessimistic, albeit reasonable, assessment that any attempts for real socioeconomic development in the territories will fail due to political and other pressures. Indeed, an economic crisis more severe than that in Israel and security and political problems more serious than those in the past might be created in the territories. This is a tough but quite realistic forecast of the new situation that will emerge in the territories in the near future.

Jewish 'Terrorists' Sentenced to 6-Year Term

TA210634 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 21 Nov 84

[Text] Three men known as the Terror Against Terror group have been sentenced in the Jerusalem District Court to 6 years in prison for planting a number of grenades last year at Christian and Muslim buildings. David Der'i, 'Amram Der'i, and Uri Ben-'Ayun also received 3-year suspended prison sentences for the attacks which damaged five churches, convents, and mosques. Two people had also been wounded.

Palestinian Journalist on Effects of Jewish Terror

TA210807 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 21 Nov 84 p 8

[Commentary by Palestinian journalist Jamil Hamad: "Questions About Terror"]

[Text] Few Arabs in the West Bank and Gaza were particularly surprised at the growth of the alleged Jewish terrorist network within the settlement movement. From the initial exposures last April until the firing of a rocket at a Hebron bus precisely six months later, it was entirely predictable.

For years now, the settlers have been conducting a so-called vigilante campaign, making and applying their own brand of law in the occupied territories. They have, the victims say, led attacks into West Bank refugee camps, beaten up Arabs in the streets of Arab towns, destroyed Arab property, smashed the windscreens of cars. So the Palestinian Arabs weren't in the least astonished at the inevitable development of outright terrorism.

Nonetheless, very little has been said about what impact the exposure of this alleged network is having, or will have on the Arab population, the target of what seems to be an irrational conspiracy, whose members include many of Israel's "best and brightest."

I, for one, have observed two distinct reactions in the West Bank. On the one hand, there is the Palestinian who feels vindicated, and rightly so: "There, you see. It's all true. This is just what we've been saying all along, and the world never believed us." On

the other hand, there is the Palestinian Israel-watcher who points out, again quite rightly, that the arrests and the public exposure are all unprecedented in the history of Israel; that they are a healthy and positive sign that the Israeli government can and, moreover, is willing to be even-handed, and to put justice before politics.

Yet a third Palestinian Arab group is affected by these events — the youth. It is the impact on this group that disturbs me. Countless Arab youngsters, mere teenagers, have suffered brutality and humiliation in being arrested and dragged to police or military government headquarters; some are beaten, abused and debased without even being charged. Frequently, and without any reason, teenage boys are summoned to military headquarters for "questioning," and are held all day and then released at dusk. The only result has been to radicalize them.

Now these youngsters discover that the Israeli settlers really *were* out to get them, to maim them, to kill them, to destroy their holy shrines. They discover there never was even a pretence of "security danger" behind the settlers' actions. They believe there never was a chance for real justice from the police or the military authorities.

A teenager cannot discriminate; he cannot distinguish between brutalities. It doesn't matter that this one now is labelled "terror"; it's all of a piece for him. These youngsters can't differentiate between the terrorism of a bunch of "crazies" and what they experience during interrogation at the hands of officials.

The upshot of this, I believe, will be that methods of Israeli interrogation and treatment of prisoners will become somewhat better publicized and accepted than they have been when the Arabs themselves describe what happens to them in Israeli jails.

One cannot but fear that already radicalized Arab youths, for years the victims both of Israeli vigilante terrorism and of Israeli police harassment, will become even more incensed. Dramatic revelation may fuel self-justification, and Jewish terror may be countered by heightened Arab terror. What we are seeing as the end result is the "war" being brought out into the open, with even louder justification on both sides.

I can understand the simplist reasoning behind the reactions of young Arabs. The Jews came to this land claiming the right — every nation's right — to save themselves and to have a secure homeland. And the Gush Emunim settlers, armed yet further with the will of God, took over disputed land and built their homes in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. But to the Arab youth it seems quite clear that the Jews have *not* come to live in peace with us, nor truly to follow the will of God, but to force us out. That and that alone is the mission of the settlers. Would you be able to give a different explanation?

The phenomenon of Jewish terror should raise urgent questions among all Jews, not only those of Israel; questions about the motivation and technique of Israel's "manifest destiny." The alleged settler terrorist network is only one, albeit the largest, the best-organized, and the most professional of all the Jewish terrorist cells uncovered this year alone — the Lifta Gang, the American boys who attacked an Arab bus, the Israeli boy awaiting trial for attacking an Arab bus. But what else could one have expected?

One sees people who served in the Hagana, the Irgun, the Stern Gang, throwing up their hands and crying, "*What* are these children doing? But what is the difference between the terrorism that forced the British out of Palestine and the terrorism attempting to force the Palestinians out of Israel?

I would also, somewhat wryly, point out the somewhat un-Jewish indifference to how justice is administered, or rather, not administered in Israel's jails and manifested in its penal system. Torture, physical abuse, humiliation, denial of civil rights — in the long run all this usually rebounds onto those who did not care. If you permit such treatment of those at the bottom, of the defenceless, then the day will come when it is you, or Israeli youths, who will complain of police brutality. Injustice eventually devours those who tolerated it in the first place.

The blame for the monster of Jewish terrorism should not be reserved only for certain settler elements in Israel. It cannot be limited only to the fact that Gush Emunim fertilized and nurtured terrorism within its ranks. Gush Emunim itself was nurtured by Israel and by Jews throughout the world. Those who finance and support Israeli settlement in the West Bank and the Golan and the Gaza Strip, and who provide 'olim [immigrants] for these settlements, should face the issues directly, and consider their real meaning. Did Jews come to live in, or decide to support Israel for the sake of a Jewish identity, or was their purpose to wreak vengeance and destroy another people? How does one stop this? How does one guarantee it will never happen again?

I suggest that there is only one way. Jews should see Palestinians neither as victims, nor as mad killers, nor as scum to be eradicated. Israel, and Jews throughout the world must accept Palestinians as full partners in this land. Both our peoples — the Jews and the Palestinians — have a right to live in our land, in our homeland, with dignity. Otherwise there will be no peace. And terror will beget yet more terror.

West German Agriculture Minister Arrives

TA201805 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] The West German agriculture minister arrived in Israel this evening as the guest of his counterpart, Arye Nehamkin. At Ben-Gurion Airport, the visiting minister said that bilateral agricultural cooperation should be increased.

The West German told our correspondent Moshe Nestelbaum that bilateral relations in the agricultural area are excellent and that there are plans to continue to develop them in the future as well.

Minister Arye Nehamkin stated that Israel intends to expand agricultural exports to the FRG and to strengthen bilateral scientific cooperation.

Burg Interviewed on Middle East Policy
AU201357 Vienna Domestic Service in German 1100 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Interview with Interior Minister Yosef Burg by Austrian Radio correspondent Harry Sichrowsky in Vienna; date not given — recorded]

[Excerpt] [Sichrowsky] The big coalition between the Labor Party and the Lukud has now been in office since September; what is your assessment of its capability of ruling Israel? It was once said about India that it was a country that is ungovernable — could Israel be another such country?

[Burg] We also once had a female prime minister, but you will hardly find many other similarities between India and Israel. I would put it this way: There is a justification for forming the Cabinet of national unity because the weight of economic problems stands in the foreground; these problems can be solved only if the right and the left, workers and employers and employees, are together in one government. This is the rationale, the justification for forming the government. Its duration is a question of temperament and of problems. I belong to that camp which believes that the government will continue to exist because it must exist.

[Sichrowsky] What prospects do you see for the Palestinian issue on the one hand and for the current Lebanon negotiations on the other?

[Burg] These are two different things which may perhaps touch each other in some remote corner, in the same way as certain parts of the earth may touch each other geographically.

First, to the Lebanon issue: It is not just a local problem, or a regional one. It is a global issue, because it is part of the great discussion which is being conducted between Moscow and Washington. We do not know whether there is a thaw between Moscow and Washington and whether temperatures are rising or cooling. But I may say the following: If Syria does not exert too negative an influence on the negotiations we see chances of achieving an understanding rather rapidly. There is a paradoxical thing: We do not claim a single square centimer of Lebanese territory. All we want is that the south of Lebanon not be used again for shelling the north of Israel, for bombing it. So much for Lebanon.

As far as the Arabs in the so-called West Bank are concerned — I was the chairman of the commission for the autonomy talks — I believe that the best we have on the market today is if the Palestinian Arabs will not permit themselves to be agitated. [sentence as heard] Then they should realize that this is the best chance for them to achieve a strong degree of self- administration.

[Sichrowsky] And here is a last, personal question: You have been a minister for dozens of years, you have the reputation abroad of being an *eminence grise*, a kingmaker. How are you satisfied with your present position?

[Burg] First, my present position is not a final one. We hold the Ministry of the Interior and also want the Ministry of Religious Affairs in addition. There is at present a tug-of-war for the outcome. The title of an *eminence grise* is perhaps somewhat exaggerated but I may say in all modesty that I, personally, and my party, the National Religious Party, were absolutely instrumental in bringing the right and left together and I believe that this is what is needed today.

ALGERIA

President Receives Yasir 'Arafat

LD202042 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and party secretary general, today at the Presidency received Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman. The president had talks with Yasir 'Arafat which were attended on the Algerian side by Brothers Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, Political Bureau member and official of the Permanent Secretariat of the Central Committee, and Sadiq Zwatin, member of the Permanent Secretariat of the Central Committee for Foreign Relations; and on the Palestinian side by Hakam Bal'awi, PLO representative in Tunisia, and 'Umar Qadiri, member of the PLO representation in Algeria. Yasir 'Arafat had arrived in Algeria today and he was welcomed at Houari Boumedienne Airport by Brother Sadiq Zwatin.

FLN Delegation Leaves For 13th Romanian Congress

LD201657 Algiers APS in English 1000 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Algeria, 20 Nov — An FLN party delegation headed by Mr Ahmed Ali Ghazali, member of the CC Permanent Secretariat charged with social affairs left Algeria on Monday to Bucharest in Socialist Republic of Romania. This delegation is to attend the 13th Congress of the Romanian Communist Party, which is being held from 19 to 23 November 1984.

Health Agreement Signed With USSR

LD200317 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Prime Minister Abdelhamid Ibrahimi received this morning Mr Burenkov, the Soviet minister of health, who is paying an official visit to our country. The meeting, which took place in the presence of Mr Djamel Houhou, dealt with the Algerian-Soviet relations of cooperation and the prospects of their development, notably in the health field. Moreover, it is worth noting that an agreement on health matters has just been signed. It refers to three areas: exchanging experience, sending highly-trained Soviet specialists to Algeria, and sending a mission of experts in epidemiology and bacteriology.

Cooperation Accord Signed With CSSR

LD202150 Algiers APS in French 1006 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Prague, 20 Nov (APS) — A delegation of the FLN party led by Colonel Said Ait-Messaoudene, CC member in charge of economic affairs who is currently paying an official visit to Czechoslovakia, conferred with a delegation from the Czechoslovak Communist Party led by Vasil Bilak, Politburo member and Central Committee secretary. Talks ranged over relations between the two parties and the way and means to strengthen them and expand them in the mutual interest of the two countries. During this visit the two sides signed a cooperation accord protocol.

LIBYA

JANA: No Involvement in Gandhi Death

LD201924 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1755 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Tripoli, 20 Nov (JANA) — The People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison today issued a statement refuting the allegations made by Husni Mubarak at his meeting with the foreign journalists yesterday against the Jamahiriyah. The following is the text of the statement:

The People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison wishes to refer to the false allegations uttered by Husni Mubarak during his meeting with foreign journalists yesterday against the Socialist Peoples Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, his slandering of it, and his embroilment of its name in the assassination of Mrs Indira Gandhi and other world figures. While categorically denying any connection with the assassination of Mrs Indira Gandhi and others, the people's committee wishes to affirm the following facts:

1. The accusation of the Jamahiriyah of having a connection with the assassination of Mrs Indira Gandhi is no more than yet another episode in the series of falsehoods and lies that we have gotten used to hearing from Husni Mubarak, who has chosen for himself the road of serving the anti-Arab nation designs with sincerity and sacrifice. Instead of being swept by the tide of the fabrication of lies and the leveling of charges against the Socialist People'sLibyan Arab Jamahiriyah, Husni Mubarak should have better used the efforts he has been expending in serving the objectives and ambitions of his masters in the region to serve the Egyptian people and save them from the morass of humiliation and servitude in which he is trying to sink them, and to lift from their shoulders the pressures of the policy of oppression, suppression, and exploitation which he is using against them through his organizations of repression, deception, and blackmail.

2. The Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah is linked with India by strong ties of friendship based on mutual respect and joint struggle against the enemies of peoples, and the Arab Libyan people is linked with Indira Gandhi by strong ties and considers her absence from the international political scene as a great loss to Libyan-Indian friendship and to the Nonaligned Movement. Husni Mubarak does know that the absence of Mrs Indira Gandhi will serve only the imperialist circles led by America and regimes linked to it at the service of which he exerts all his efforts, putting all the possibilities and territory of the fraternal Egyptian people at their disposal, in a drive to inflict more humiliation on the Egyptian people and the Arab nation.

3. What Husni Mubarak has been repeating is in fact an Egyptian story and a fabricated and exposed play whose parts contain as much falsehood, falsification, and lies as it contains flattery and bootlicking, by means of which the one spreading them seeks to gain favor with specific states — the Gulf states. If this is what the head of the Egyptian regime is seeking, we reject that this be at our expense. He is free to lick the boot of whom he wants, since

this is a basic trait of his, and we do not think that he minds doing so.

4. He who follows these lies becomes certain they are not ruled by reason or logic, except the logic of those who invent lies and repeat them until they believe through illusion that they represent the truth. What they have said about Indira Gandhi is enough to prove this; the world knows those who have planned, carried out, and financed the operation of her assassination, and who benefits from it.

5. All the actions by the Egyptian regime are in compliance with the orders issued to it by those who had been the instrument for its existence and who provided it with protection and insured its continued existence until today. The campaign in its entirety is intended to create favorable atmosphere for the launching of an aggression against the Jamahiriyah. This is because Reagan wants to inaugurate his return to power by following what he had declared about his tackling of Nicaragua, Libya, Syria, the Palestinians, and the Lebanese people. This is one of the beginnings of the American decision. The Egyptian regime has found for itself its usual role as an implementation instrument under Husni Mubarak just as it was under Al-Sadat.

6. This orchestrated campaign aims in fact at checking the role the Libyan people play against the stable David process whose personifications in the Arab and international arenas have begun to prepare for activitating and widening the circle of the process. The least that can be said about this campaign is that it is feverish reaction to the Libyan Arab people's attempts to break up Husni Mubarak's isolation and Arabize the stable David and liquidate the Palestine resistance.

7. The political and diplomatic moves by the Libyan people on the Arab and international fields, which enable the others to see not only the other face of the Arab willpower and ability to act and exist, which is what frightens Husni Mubarak today and causes him to rush madly to utter lies which he propagates before the world without any sense of shame. [sentence as received]

The People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, while denying all the fabrications made by the head of the Egyptian regime, wishes to affirm that it will not permit itself to be drawn into the tide of replying to the campaign of falsities and cheap aggressions because it knows that this campaign will inevitably collapse in the place that befits them and those who propagate them.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives PLO's Abu Nidal

LD201055 Tripoli JANA in English 1005 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Tripoli, Safar 27, Nov 20, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY -- The leader of the revolution received last night Abu Nidal [as received], secretary of the Command Committee of the Palestinian National Liberation Front, Fatah-the Revolutionary Council.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Saudi King's Envoy

LD171157 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1007 GMT 17 Nov 84

[Text] Tripoli, 17 Nov (JANA) -- The brother leader of the revolution this morning received Shaykh 'Ali Muslim, the special envoy of King Fahd, the Saudi monarch.

Malta Offered Support 'Against Imperialism'

LD201638 Tripoli JANA in English 1430 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Valetta, Safar 27, Nov 20, JAMAHIRIYA NEWS AGENCY — Huge crowds of the Maltese people took, last Sunday, to the streets to greet and welcome the leader of the revolution and to confirm their appreciation to the stands of the great Al-Fatah revolution towards supporting and backing the issues of the freedom of the peoples.

The leader of the revolution met these huge crowds of the Maltese masses and delivered a speech on this occasion. He said: "This is a chance to meet the brother, friend, neighbor, and dear Maltese peoples to convey the greeting of their brothers, the people of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, and to confirm the stand of the Libyan Arab side by side with the Maltese people, and to support the independence of Malta and reassure the neutrality of Malta and standing with the Maltese people economically and militarily."

The leader confirmed that the enemies of Libya are enemies of Malta and the colonialists do not want this meeting because they want to turn Malta into a base to their forces and to destroy Malta as they did before during the Second World War to achieve their colonialist interests. The Americans and the English are the enemies of Malta and NATO is also an enemy of Malta and intends to transform it into a base to its forces.

He said we work towards achieving peace in the Mediterranean and demand for evacuation of foreign fleets from the Mediterranean and foreign bases from the coasts and center of the Mediterranean and removal of nuclear missiles from Comiso, since these threaten peace of Mediterranean, Malta, and Libya. The leader explained, in this respect, that "the NATO alliance headed by America does not want Malta to be independent and neutral. It wants to transform Malta into a military base for its forces and fleets. We strongly resist the American colonialist units in the Mediterranean and reject the return of the colonialist bases to Malta and Libya. He confirmed that the peoples of the Mediterranean reject the Mediterranean to be transformed into an American base and a NATO base. These peoples want peace and America wants war and destruction. He said we are not afraid of America and NATO. The Libyan Arab and Maltese people hand in hand are for tranquility, neutrality, peace, progress, and civilization of the Mediterranean and colonialism wants Malta and Libya and the Mediterranean to be subjugated to them forever." [sentence as received]

The leader of the revolution, confirmed, "We will not allow them to colonize our countries once more and to return their military bases to Malta and Libya again." He pointed out that "America would not be able to differentiate between us because we are from the same origin. We are the sons of the great Phoenicians. The

Phoenicians were our grandparents. The Phoenicians were the builders of civilization and raised Malta and Libya and North Africa. We descend from the same origin and they cannot separate us and colonize Libya and Malta forever. We will be neighbors forever."

The leader said: "The power of America cannot drive away the neighborhood of Malta to Libya and we will unite and cooperate to repel them. We attack those who become our enemies and befriend those who become our friends. Colonialism wants us to be slaves and we want to be free. The people [however] small they may be, have the right to live under the sun and over the earth with pride, freedom and dignity. The peoples, whatever their size, have the right of life and freedom. The leader of the revolution confirmed that the Libyan Arab people will provide all assistance to their brothers, the Maltese people, in all economic, social, and political fields. The Libyan Arab people will stand with the Maltese people against imperialism and colonial bases and those who threaten peace and independence and neutrality of Malta and those who want to return Malta and transform it into a base for them in the Mediterranean.

The leader concluded his speech by greeting the Arab Maltese friendship and the struggle of Maltese and Arab peoples for peace and freedom.

Official Denounces U.S. Gulf of Sidra Maneuvers

LD171716 Tripoli JANA in English 1427 GMT 17 Nov 84

[Text] New York, Safar 24, November 17, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Member for the GPC [General People's Committee] for External Relations, Dr 'Ali al-Hadhari affirmed that Reagan's terrorist government's deployment of military ships and forces in the Gulf of Sidra in order to conduct military maneuvres for the purpose of terrorizing the people of the Jamahiriyah as well as those of Nicaragua, is the pinnacle of the U.S. international terrorism. He pointed out that America's administration of a number of military and naval bases throughout the world constitutes a dangerous threat to world peace and security.

In a press conference held at the U.N. last night, Dr Hadhari said the U.S. terrorist policy inundated with military provocation and propaganda campaigns against several progressive nations, including Jamahiriyah, does not serve the interests of the American people, nor does it achieve its colonialist aim of imposing its hegemony over those states opposed to the U.S. Rather, it has helped to enlighten the peoples as regards the best means to confront such colonialist maneuvres.

He said the international terrorism is exemplified by power display, the deployment of military fleets near the coasts of peaceful countries, escalation of arms race, the production of destructive weapons, the placement of economic boycott, and conducting maneuvres.

He also condemned the imperialist provocations and threats of the Reagan administration against the Nicaraguan people, and said that such a policy provides a good evidence regarding the U.S. aggressive intentions.

Because of the violations of the U.N. aims and principles, the U.N. achievements are [words indistinct] harsh tests. He said the U.S., a member of the U.N., is pre-occupied with the escalation of tension and deployment of its fleets for the sake of terrorizing the people and threatening to invade their country, instead of implanting the principles of peace.

Al-Qadhdhafi Interviewed by Mexican Newspaper

PA201717 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 14 Nov 84 pp 1, 16

[Part one of report by correspondent Stella Calloni]

[Text] Tripoli, Libya, 13 Nov — Considered "enemy number one" by the U.S. Government, called by others "the hawk of the desert," Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, dressed in a green jumpsuit similar to those used by pilots, seems to contradict such images when, politely and without raising his voice, he states in an exclusive interview with this newspaper:

"There is total solidarity of the Libyan people with the peoples who struggle for their freedom and independence in Central America." He adds: "I believe Latin America has every right to defend itself from the United States, as the Libyan people have the sacred and legitimate right to defense. The United States has subjugated and exploited the region. The right of the Central American and Latin American peoples is a natural right; this is a confrontation between good and evil, which is represented by Reagan and his government. The current U.S. President's attitudes correspond to the type of regime that he represents: imperialism; he is a product of that system. Libya therefore feels solidarity against the U.S. intervention."

The office where Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the so-called Green Revolution, receives visitors is a tent like those used in the desert, with simple furnishings and bright colors. He notes that the basis for the Libyan solidarity with Latin America is found in the document People's Power, of 1977. He stresses: "Imperialism practices international terrorism against the small peoples of the Third World, even against the European peoples with the installation of nuclear missiles in their territories, and also through its economic monopoly." Al-Qadhdhafi states clearly: "The United States practices terrorism against Nicaragua and the rest of the countries of the Caribbean. The most recent example is the invasion of the island of Grenada." The Libyan leader says that "the revolution in Latin America will take place because it is the only path of the peoples, of the masses, for their liberation. This is the era of the masses or jamahiriyah. The revolutions in Latin America must take profound steps towards the real power of the masses. They, and not their misnamed representatives, are the ones who must govern and make the decisions."

Regarding the current internal situation, Al-Qadhdhafi notes that before 1969 "Libya could be considered like many countries whose independence was false, a false image. There are some countries in the United Nations or in the Nonaligned Movement whose independence is false. In Libya, there was talk of nonexistent independence." He laughs ironically and states: "For exam-

ple, I do not believe that Germany [not further identified] is an independent country."

He adds that "Libyan territory was occupied by British and U.S. military bases. The Libyan people lived under a regime of false independence (granted by the United Nations in 1951), as strangers in their own territory and with social conditions that were in line with a colonial system. A minority lived in special conditions. There was no development. There was only petroleum, and naturally the role of the foreign companies was to enjoy the profits to the utmost. The people did not receive any benefits."

Libya was occupied in 1911 by Italy, which had to face heavy resistance. Omar El Mujtar, the leader of the resistance, was assassinated in 1933. Italy entered Libya during World War II, and the Libyan people "had to endure fascism. The colonial occupation resulted in almost 1 million dead." In 1942, the British occupied the north, and the French occupied the south. The military uprising took place on 1 September 1969. Less than 1 year later, on 28 March 1980, the British left their bases in Libya; the United States did the same in June; and the Italians in October.

However, the remnants of colonialism remain. Libya is sown with mines that are still claiming victims today. Al-Qadhdhafi has asked for indemnification from the Italian Government or "the construction of schools, hospitals, or housing in compensation for the damges from this other war." Hundreds of thousands of disabled people show the marks left by the mines. In October, three children were killed by an explosion. The drama continues, and neither Italy nor Britain has provided maps or means to deactivate the mines.

The Libyan revolution nationalized banks and insurance companies and took over the direction of the petroleum companies under the central idea of "the people's control over all their resources, weapons, and property and absolute freedom to make decisions."

Al-Qadhdhafi believes he has found a solution for this period in history. "It is our own particular view," he adds. "The study of reality led us to undertake a process that we believe is the only true way to carry out a revolution. It is original. It cannot be viewed as traditional." This thought has emerged, he adds, "from the study and knowledge of reality, from the heart of the abandoned and oppressed in the search for a better future." This idea can be applied throughout the world.

Reportage on Jabir Visit to USSR

For a Moscow *KRASNAYA ZVEZDA* report on the visit of Brigadier General 'Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Libyan Armed Forces, to the USSR and his meeting with S. Akhromeyev, chief of staff of the Soviet Armed Forces and first deputy to the minister of defense, and S.L. Sokolov, USSR first deputy defense minister, see the Middle East & North Africa section of the 21 November Soviet Union *DAILY REPORT*.

MOROCCO

UAE's Al Nuhayyan Arrives for Visit 18 Nov

LD181923 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 18 Nov 84

[Excerpt] His Excellency Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, head of state of United Arab Emirates, this afternoon arrived in Morocco for a few days visit to our country.

To Mediate in W. Saharan Dispute

LD201511 Kuwait KUNA in English 1344 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Rabat, Nov 20 (KUNA) — President of the United Arab Emirates, currently on a private visit here, is mediating between Morocco and Algeria on the Western Sahara dispute before leaving here to participate in the 5th summit conference of the GCC, scheduled to convene in Kuwait November 27. A reliable diplomatic source told KUNA that Shaykh Zayid's visit to Morocco might help ease the current tension between Rabat and Algiers following the admission of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic (SDAR) into the OAU during the OAU summit November 12, which was followed by Morocco's withdrawal from that organization.

KUNA correspondent here learned that Shaykh Zayid's efforts concentrate on holding a summit meeting between King Hassan of Morocco and Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid. Over the next two days, Shaykh Zahid is expected to have talks on the Western Sahara issue described by diplomatic Arab sources as important. The sources predicted that UAE Minister of Oil and Mineral Resources Dr Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah would shuttle between Algiers and Rabat with the aim of stopping further deterioration in the relations of the two Arab countries.

SUDAN

Hashim 'Uthman Receives PRC Cultural Delegation

JN201515 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1448 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Khartoum, 20 Nov (SUNA) — Foreign Minister Hashim 'Uthman today received PRC Vice Minister of Education (Xu Dixi) and his delegation. The minister praised the developed relations between the two countries in all spheres stressing that the PRC vice minister of education's visit to Sudan will further promote cultural, scientific, and technical exchange between the two countries.

Numayri Confers With U.S. Ambassador in Khartoum

JN201529 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1512 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Khartoum, 20 Nov (SUNA) — President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri received U.S. Ambassador Hume Alexander Horan here today. They reviewed bilateral cooperation, particularly the economic issues and the effects of the drought in certain regions of Sudan that host refugees from neighboring states. The ambassador affirmed U.S. support for Sudan in its efforts to deal

with the drought and the consequences that will arise from Sudan's playing host to refugees. Baha al-Din Muhammad Idris, the president's aide for presidential affairs, attended the meeting.

Numayri: Libya Exploiting Famine Politically

JN171816 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1740 GMT 17 Nov 84

[Text] Khartoum, 17 Nov (SUNA) — President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri announced in an interview with ABC Television Network here this morning that Libya is exploiting famine conditions in Sudan politically. He said Libya has sent people, said to be Sudanese, on 20 trucks driven by Libyan and Sudanese drivers to the town of Mellit, Darfur region, to create political problems in Sudan. The president's interview was reported at a press conference by Culture and Information Minister 'Ali Muhammad Shammu, who attended the interview. Shammu said that during this interview the president shed more light on this incident. He said that the trucks arrived 2 days ago and that some of the passengers, who held Sudanese passports, told the Sudnaese authorities that they had come to Sudan from southern Libya due to the abundance of food.

Five Dissident Groups Ready To Negotiate

JN201045 Khartoum SUNA in English 1000 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Malakal (South Sudan) Safar 26 (SUNA) — Five dissident groups in Pantoi town have expressed desire to lay down weapons and take part in dialogue in response to President Numayri's appeal, Upper Nile Military Commander Maj Gen Mustafa Mahmud announced yesterday. Mahmud who is also chairman of the military committee entrusted by Numayri to negotiate with dissidents added that the committee would start talks with the five groups within the upcoming 10 days and submit its report to the president of the republic.

As for the group of 'Abdallah Deng, which responded earlier to Numayri's appeals, Mahmud said a tentative agreement on military aspects was reached and that negotiations would be pushed further so as to find a political entente. Mahmud finally reiterated that his committee was ready to hold dialogue with all dissidents so as to achieve the homeland's interests.

University Closed After Police Action

EA162101 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 16 Nov 84

[Text] The University of Juba has been closed indefinitely and students have been ordered to leave the campus for their homes, reports our correspondent in Equatoria. The closure of the university followed police action against the students, who had staged a peaceful sit-in on the campus for about a week. Our correspondent says the students were demanding restoration of their union, dissolved by the government last year when the majority of students rejected the government-imposed leadership of the Muslim brothers.

On 10 November, 1984, members of the Juba police, acting on instructions from the Equatoria administrative area authorities, stormed the campus, firing live bullets at the students and some members of the university administration. Several students were wounded, some seriously. An engineer working for the university was also wounded. After hearing shooting at the university, residents from (?Apalla Barracks), Number Three, and (Katur), which are near to the university, came and watched in [words indistinct] while the police were firing into the campus without restraint. A Radio SPLA correspondent in Equatoria says the university vice-chancellor is widely believed in Juba to have had prior knowledge of the police measures. Reports from Juba add that the vice-chancellor of the university is known to have given a list of five students he thinks were the ringleaders of the sit-in for arrest and detention without charge or trial.

Other independent reports suggest that the vice-chancellor, who is a well known sympathizer of the Muslim Brotherhood, has on several occasions asked the government to transfer the university from Juba to Affat, in Omdurman, on the grounds that Juba is not a secure place.

TUNISIA

Mauritanian Foreign Minister Arrives

LD190020 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 18 Nov 84

[Excerpts] The Mauritanian minister of foreign affairs and cooperation and the Mauritanian president's personal envoy to President Habib Bourguiba, Ahmed Ould Minnih, arrived in Tunis yesterday. On arrival, Ahmed Ould Minnih made a statement in which he explained that he had a personal message from the Mauritanian president, Mohammed Khouna Ould Haydala to President Habib Bourguiba.

Algerian Leader Stops Over To See Bourguiba

LD170620 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 16 Nov 84

[Summary] Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid stopped over in Tunis this afternoon for a short visit. He was met at the airport by Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali and other Tunisian officials. He then went to the hospital to see President Bourguiba and to wish him a speedy recovery. After the visit the Algerian president left Tunis for his country.

Libyan Officer Arrives To Visit Bourguiba

LD170700 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 16 Nov 84

[Summary] Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi, commander of the militarization of the cities, arrived in Tunis this evening where he was welcomed at the airport by Foreign Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi and Hedi Baccouche, director of the party. Mr al-Humaydi said that Colonel al-Qadhdhafi had instructed him to visit President Bourguiba in the hospital and to convey his heartfelt greetings and best wishes. Maj al-Humaydi visited President Bourguiba in La Rabta Hospital.

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Press Conference on Drought, Revolution

EA191742 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 17 Nov 84

[Text][Announcer] Listeners, we shall now bring you the answers of Comrade Haile Mariam Mengistu to questions from national and international journalists. Comrade Chairman Haile Mariam Mengistu affirmed that we can overcome our problems by making efforts to increase production and by making use of science and technology. Comrade Haile Mariam Mengistu, Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPE] secretary general, Provisional Military Administrative Council chairman, and commander in chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, said this yesterday afternoon at the WPE office hall when answering questions from national and international journalists on the current situation in Ethiopia, Africa, and the world.

The first question to the comrade chairman from the Voice of Revolutionary Ethiopia national service was: What influence will the current grave natural problems have on the development of our revolution?

[Begin Mengistu recording] Before briefing you on how we have started and plan to tackle the drought, I would like to brief you on its cause and nature. The drought evident in our country has two types of causes or nature. We are mostly affected in the northern parts of our country as a result of long-standing and deeply rooted reasons. As I think all of you will know, Ethiopian society was first established in the northern part of our country. Naturally it is a highland area and for many years has been plowed using old farming methods. Owing to this, the soil and minerals from the highlands have been washed away to the lowlands over a period of many years. So this land lost its fertility a long time ago. On the other hand, vegetation, and the forest in particular, has been cleared by farmers, leaving the land exposed in most areas. On top of this, this region is the most populated area in our country and land distribution is very difficult. Owing to the abovementioned reasons, the land has lost its fertility and the community faced this problem for many years, even before the drought.

Because of the climatic relationship between the northern part of our country, the Indian Ocean, and the Red Sea, the drought created by adverse climatic change has been affecting the area repeatedly for reasons not clear to many of us. Drought has inflicted serious damage in that area over the last 20, 15, and 10 years. [as heard]

In the northern parts of our country, the Tigray and Welo regions in particular, many human and animal lives have been lost in the past 10 years. Because of the failure of the previous regime to announce the situation to the international community, the communities' problems were intensified, and this was one of the reasons for the upsurge of our revolution. For that and other reasons, from the time the people revolted against that system and decided to determine their own fate, priority activities were given more attention. This was to supply the necessary relief aid for our drought-affected compatriots and for other development activities at all levels. As you may recall, our first action was to expose the problems of the drought in our society to the world community and receive the necessary relief aid from willing donors.

The other action was to organize and coordinate financing from public and government organizations and, according to the ability of the country, allocate funds to assist drought-affected compatriots, in addition to the relief aid requested from willing donors. As you all know, we have set up an institution to direct the activity of the aid properly. This was the first of its kind in Africa and is now 10 years old. It is the relief and rehabilitation commission. This is a great organization. It has various executive sectors, social workers, agricultural experts, and other qualified personnel. With the help of other experts, this organization has helped greatly in distributing relief programs, in rehabilitating sections of society affected by drought, and in setting up a program to solve the problem of affected compatriots step by step over the past years.

In the past 10 years, with the cooperation of this organization and other public and government organizations, it has properly carried out its duties in the relief program area and in rehabilitating the people and improving the problem. I feel it is fair to explain some of the steps taken. For example, due to the deforestation of the region, great efforts were made to afforest the affected areas by mobilizing region residents and society through the Food for Work program. Many highland areas and other parts have been terraced and the soil which was being washed away was saved. We have tried to distribute oxen for agricultural use to assist individual farmers whose cattle have been killed by the drought.

Where and when we could, various farming implements were distributed among the peasants. Soil and water usage systems and other methods have been tried. Efforts were made to resettle people from areas where the land can no longer support living creatures to other parts of our country which are fertile and can help them to be self-sufficient. Since we were deceived by the varying weather conditions — some parts of our country received rain showers — we were consoled by the temporary settlement measures as a solution. But over the past 2 years, while facing this situation, conditions have changed.

Previously, the weather patterns in the Indian Ocean and the Red Sea affected us: The expansion of the drought from the Sahara, while affecting southern and eastern Africa, now includes Ethiopia. We have two rains in our country — the short and long rains. Due to the failure of the long rains, most farmers were hungry, and when the short rains failed, the government, with all its power, tried to save the available food and seed crops and tried to contain the situation. But the drought persisted and the situation worsened. Last year, the government was not in a position to supply relief aid to all the drought-affected peasants. In fact, if it is going to continue like this, we feel that the solution, or the response to this problem, is not in government handouts.

This situation concerns one type of drought in our country, particularly in the northern region, which, as I have said, has a long-standing history of drought. The other new and peculiar development is the drought in the southern parts of our country,

which have never before experienced this type of problem. The southern part of our country used to have a generally high rainfall; mostly above 1,000 mm of rain a year. Most of the region is covered with forests and vegetation: No question of food problems arose until now. But in the past 1-2 years, this part of our country has been affected by the drought expanding from the Sahara. The situation is very complex. In some places we miss the long rains and in others the short rains: The rains either come early or late. With this type of situation, the people of the southern regions of our country, once in a position where they used to be self-sufficient, were forced to seek assistance from the government.

In the course of efforts to examine the depth and breadth of the problem and its solutions, in the past years, directly or indirectly, no less than 6 million people were found to be recipients of government assistance as drought victims. As you all know, this situation is beyond the government's control and is a very dangerous situation. The gravity of the disaster thus necessitated exposure of the situation to the international community and the activities carried out made known to the world. In the respect, in fact, great sacrifice and humanitarianism is being seen. As I mentioned earlier, the situation in the northern part of our country is a deeply rooted problem and, due to its peculiar nature, it has become very difficult to rehabilitate people in the area securely. Due to their understanding that this cannot be done, and due to the lack of hope, people have decided to migrate from the region to other more fertile parts of our country.

Even though the relief aid program is necessary and there is no alternative to it to save lives, we have planned our activities in different stages and we are working toward a lasting solution to this basic problem. First, we are coordinating local and international aid for speedy distribution to the areas where it is needed most. Second, we are trying to settle those compatriots most affected by the drought and who are migrating into areas which are thinly populated and which are fertile, in conjunction with the use of the relief aid to enable them to be self-sufficient. According to our views and estimations, out of nearly 6 million people, we are trying, in the near future, to resettle about 500,000.

With regard to the southern regions of our country, the situation is not so discouraging: The drought is due to variable weather conditions and is not grave. Therefore, we are looking for ways and means to supply farmers with improved farming equipment and seed and to replace cattle and animals that have been lost. It is believed that permanent solutions can be found in these regions. This is the immediate task.

In accordance with our country's long-term development plan, we intend to respond to this aspect of the problem with our ability to implement in stages new methods of water, soil, and land usage — I will not go into this in detail. However, this is not only words or plans; the plans will be put into deeds. In this respect, our party, people, and government are ready to abolish these problems and will overcome them. We believe that if the international pledges are realized, our efforts will probably be seen as exemplary solutions for countries which are experiencing the same problem. This is all I wish to say on this point. [end recording]

The second question for our comrade chairman is from *ADDIS ZEMEN* newspaper: How can countries like Ethiopia, which are underdeveloped, resist foreign economic pressures and become self-reliant?

[Begin Mengistu recording] Before discussing Ethiopia's development path and resistance to foreign economic pressure, we can view this foreign pressure in various ways. There is fair pressure and dangerous pressure. Generally speaking, developed and developing countries are interrelated economically both directly and indirectly. People believe that the economic situation in the world should be seen from the viewpoint of the need for a fair and just exchange and (?barter system). For example, those who have energy resources, modern industrial products, or who are producers of raw materials, should not live with the aim of enriching themselves at the expense of others. Through a balanced exchange system, and by avoiding other political and social problems, a new economic system could be implemented in the world. To achieve this, developing nations should struggle unreservedly and (?work toward this end).

Regarding Ethiopia, we have set up a development plan. Our country is an agricultural one, and when we say that our economy is based on agriculture, it means we have to supply heavy machinery and plants for our agriculture and we have to give our products to foreign markets to acquire foreign exchange in order to get an exchange for the materials we have received.

Even though we say that agriculture is our primary concern, agriculture has a great role to play in our economy. But agriculture can develop through the support of other sectors of the economy. Hence the relationship and coordination between agriculture and the economy will also be given greater attention. In this area, as the need arises and according to necessity and priority, industry, transport, mining, and other sectors will be looked at.

As you all know, the problem of our backwardness is not lack of manpower or resources, it is lack of a developed science and technology. Hence we shall concentrate strongly on the training of qualified personnel and on research. When we talk of science and technology and trained manpower, we are not only referring to training professionals qualified in specific fields, but also changes in the working system and in the attitudes of the Ethiopian peasant. In other words, there is a program aimed at introducing modern agricultural technology into the rural areas of Ethiopia. There is the issue of relating the present literacy campaign with other fields of production. In general and in short, it is possible to emerge from some of the negative pressures mentioned above by improving productivity, scientific and technological advancement, working systems, and their implementation. [end recording]

The third question presented to our comrade revolutionary leader was: Do you think that relations between Ethiopia and the United States will improve because of the drought aid it has supplied to drought victims of Ethiopia?

[Begin Mengistu recording] Basically, the causes for the differences between the U.S. Government and ourselves do not determine whether or not we receive aid. I will not say that the

misunderstanding between our two peoples and two governments arises from the conflict that originated at the time Ethiopia decided to follow the chosen path of socialist development after abandoning the long-standing feudal system of backwardness. To answer the question, I would say yes. Any good thing will bring us closer. [end recording]

Ethiopia will need aid for the next 12 months. If the food aid Ethiopia is receiving is efficiently distributed, the United States has disclosed its willingness to give more aid. What are your views on this matter?

[Begin Mengistu recording] I would like to express my thanks for the assistance given to us. I would like to state that when we talk of massive aid, it refers to pledges. It does not mean we have received it all. We hope that these pledges will be fulfilled. Regarding efficiency, as I have tried to brief you earlier, the efforts made to combat problems of drought are the first in Africa, if I am not mistaken. We have faithfully tried with all the force and efforts available to us to utilize the donated aid speedily.

Probably because of the hatred of our policy and ideology, or because of false information or any other reason, some parties might be suspicious of our efficiency. The false propaganda they are disseminating is not true at all. We are human beings, and even though what we are doing is not 100 percent correct, I would like you journalists to understand the unimpressive efforts of some parties who would like to propagate false propaganda to block the flow of international aid to Ethiopia.

There are parties who suspect the administration and aid distribution situation. At present we have stretched our forces over different networks, have mobilized the available local transport, and have been helped in this by foreign donors; we are now worried that the available transport might be idle in the coming weeks, for the aid that has been promised has not yet arrived at our ports. Instead of my telling you the situation, you journalists can make your own judgments by making an on-the-spot inspection of the areas to assess efficiency and examine where donations are being sent. [end recording]

The fifth question was from the NOVOSTI PRESS AGENCY: The dangers of the arms race have been discussed at the OAU and other international forums. Could you brief us on the role of socialist countries?

[Begin Mengistu recording] As you all know, at present the international situation is highly complex. On the one hand, there exists the highest technological development — the achievements of developed brains are prestigious for mankind — while on the other hand, man is attempting to destroy himself with dangerous weapons. It is tragic. The development and stockpiling of nuclear weapons can be seen from different angles.

For example, most of you can understand the socioeconomic situation facing the developing world, so I will leave that topic and mention the problems of Ethiopia, which we are at present discussing. At this time we are striving to solve the shocking situation facing young and old in their struggle for the maintenance of life: If we look at how other parties are using human knowledge and wealth, it might demonstrate to us the situation in the world. Trained manpower and wealth is not being used for development. This failure is saddening, and more saddening and of grave concern is the use of these resources for the destruction of mankind and the threat to it at its highest stage of development. It is an open secret. To come to the question as we all understand it, those who have the necessary force and ability are few. There must be tolerance and patience between these forces.

The arms limitation talks situation at present is woeful. With regard to this situation, the socialist community seems to be willing toward this end [as heard]; this is clear to everybody. The initiative of the socialist community on arms limitation and the initiative not to be the first to use available weapons, and other constructive proposals and suggestions, are known not only to me but are known throughout the world. We hope other parties will take similar steps. [end recording]

Your report on the 20th OAU summit recalls that a resolution was passed in 1964 to make Africa free from nuclear weapons. How far has this effort been implemented? This question was from TASS.

[Begin Mengistu recording] Among Africa's complex problems and threats is this question of Africa becoming a non-nuclear zone. This question cannot be seen in isolation from the developers, stockpilers, and distributors of such weapons. While nuclear weapons are manufactured and stockpiled, their distribution will cover the world. The problem for Africa is basically to (?control) the source of the weapons and the goodwill of those forces; otherwise our efforts will be fruitless.

The issue of Africa becoming a nuclear-free zone concerns not only the attitude of Africans themselves but has been accepted by the United Nations and the Nonaligned Movement; many resolutions and decisions have been passed to this effect, but, as we know, some parts of Africa have become dumping grounds for these weapons. As you all know, with the intention of continuing South Africa's repression and influence in the region, Western countries have made it possible for South Africa to own nuclear weapons. We view this development with grave concern. The OAU summit held many discussions on many occasions regarding this matter. When possible it has taken steps and issued condemnations. It will continue to make all possible efforts in the future to prevent this situation from developing. [end recording]

The seventh question from the Algerian news agency was: Even though you have made great diplomatic efforts in your capacity as the OAU chairman of the 19th summit to solve the problems of the Western Sahara and Chad, owing to lack of political goodwill and the intensification brought about by foreign interference, the Western Sahara and Chad issues remain a problem at the OAU. What is the situation in these countries at present?

[Begin Mengistu recording] Although the OAU is an organization which has many problems, and this is particularly true of the past few years, the issues that have not only disrupted the activities of the organization but have threatened its very existence, are those of the Western Sahara and Chad. First take the issue of Western Sahara. This issue has been threatening the

OAU for at least the past 10 years, even before the Spanish colonial regime left Sahara.

The form in which the question was presented to the OAU was, at the time when they were fighting for their freedom from Spanish colonialism: Were these fighters liberation fighters or not? Or, does Africa embrace them as liberation fighters? In other words, does the OAU recognize the Saharan Liberation Front as a liberation front or not? This has been argued about for a long time. After a certain amount of time had elapsed in the course of these differences of opinions and struggle, before the question of its recognition as a liberation front by the OAU had been resolved, the question developed or became a question of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic [SDAR] being a member of the OAU as an independent state.

This complicated and heightened the problem. If it was, according to the regulations of our Charter, when [words indistinct] opened for the recognition of the SDAR as an independent state and member of the OAU by the majority of African countries, namely a simple majority, the remaining opponents should have been governed by this rule, and we should have accepted this government. This is what led to the widening of our differences.

The number of sides not recognizing the SDAR as an independent state and its membership in the OAU were few. But since they were unwilling to be governed by the rules and regulations of the Charter, the issue was complicated when this organization, which had been recognized as a government by the majority of the OAU members, returned to the question of being considered as a liberation organization, a question that could be solved by Morocco's agreement, or through a referendum.

The issue of a referendum was proposed as a solution, not because it had legality in accordance with the regulations of the Charter by which we are governed, but as an administrative measure, and in the belief of African leaders that the bloodshed between the two sides could be solved peacefully, it was not legal. [sentence as heard] The problem is that the situation did not end here nor was the resolution even implemented.

For our part, during the past 1 and 1/2 years, while the responsibility of the OAU's leadership was entrusted to us, our efforts to implement the referendum or resolution were truthfully many, very difficult, and also trying. Nevertheless, because the majority of the member-states of the organization realized more than ever the consequences of prolonging the issue, its complexity, and the danger it posed to the survival of our organization, and because of the correct measures they took, the 20th OAU summit was able to emerge successfully with regard to this problem, as you can see. So it means that the main problem facing our organization, the issue of the Sahara, has been solved. We do not consider the result and resolution a victory for one side and defeat for the other; it is a victory for Africans in general. This result shows the sense of responsibility African leaders have for their organization and their political maturity.

It is true one solution cannot satisfy and make all sides happy at the same time. While on the one hand, we feel satisfied that through this resolution Africa has emerged from its problems, we have nevertheless paid a certain sacrifice. For example, one of the vanguard members of the organization, Morocco, and Zaire [passage indistinct] is a people in a very sad situation. This is Africa's concern, or Africa's [word indistinct] problem.

As is already known, various political factions were formed and they divided the various parts of the country and the people among themselves and are currently fighting among themselves. Recently their problem reached a stage where it invited in foreign powers, African and non-Africans, and broadened the situation. We believe that the steps taken recently by Zaire, Libya, and France [word indistinct] to leave Chad will lessen the problem. In the view and resolution of Africa, the solution to the problems of the Chadian people is for the Chadian factions to come together, solve their differences, and [word indistinct] their country's unity through national reconciliation. There is an (?institution) entrusted with the implementation of [words indistinct] and in the (?near future) [passage indistinct]. [end recording]

A question posed by the Italian news agency asks: As Italy is the friend of both Somalia and Ethiopia, what if it plays a conciliatory role in solving the misunderstanding between the two countries? The comrade chairman's reply is as follows.

[Begin Mengistu recording] As stated earlier, relationships and understanding between Italy and Ethiopia are in a very good state. After saying this, on the question relating to Ethiopia and Somalia: First of all, what is there between Somalia and Ethiopia? Even though the Ethiopian and Somali problem is a long-standing one, and though most of you are aware of it, I think it is necessary to explain, as some of you may not know.

This is not something I will present by being pro-Ethiopia, because I am an Ethiopian. This is a known fact. But the problem emanates from the expansionist desires of the leaders of the so-called Greater Somalia. The map of Greater Somalia embraces all the territory of the Republic of Djibouti and part of the Republic of Kenya and Ethiopia. As all of you are aware, first of all, this cannot be so, and it is also illegal. The Somali boundary is completely different from the international boundary recognized by the United Nations, OAU, and the nonaligned nations.

This is not a problem which only Somalia and Ethiopia face. World geopolitics has been changed for various reasons. If we do not accept this situation brought about by history and march forward, but wish to draw another map, it will only bring problems which will lead the world to another war and genocide and not benefit anyone. Therefore, we adhere to the regulations calling on us to live within the boundaries drawn by the colonialists. Somalia does not accept the chapter regulating this in Africa, and not only does it not accept this, but the efforts it makes to carry out its desires through the use of force are known worldwide.

But it has been unsuccessful. However, the damage this causes [word indistinct]. I wanted to explain this so that when the Somali and Ethiopian conflict is mentioned it should not create the slightest confusion. There is nothing we desire from Somalia. What we want from Somalia is peace and good-neighborliness. But the greatness of Somalia can never be so at our expense. If the conflict is seen in this way, then Somalia must adhere to international and African countries' regulations, accept its

boundaries, and live within them. As long as this is so, there will be no conflict with Ethiopia. If seen in this respect, yes, I think that our friend, the Government of Italy, can help in ensuring that Somalia is governed by international laws and knows its boundaries. [end recording]

Though American and other Western countries are called imperialists, they are currently providing more aid than the USSR. How do you view this? This question was from *THE NEW YORK TIMES*, and the comrade chairman replied:

[Begin Mengistu recording] First, I would like to again thank the United States and the rest of the Western countries for their goodwill and humanitarian aid with regard to the drought. In particular (?I would like to thank) the people for the humanity and humanitarian aid they provided from the time they saw Ethiopia's current problem and the efforts made to [passage indistinct] the journalists who have carried out their task properly in disseminating this sad news to the people. As I stated earlier, the aid we were given [words indistinct].

On the other hand, we believe that the (?hopes) we were given have not been realized [words indistinct]. On the question seeking my views, saying that the aid we received from our friends has been little, and the aid from the United States and other Western countries has been greater, actually concerning this humanitarian aid given as temporary relief aid, we do not view it by comparing one with the other, and I did not expect such a question from you. But since it has been raised, I would like to reply to it.

It is very, very difficult to compare the assistance given to socialist Ethiopia by the socialist camp and the USSR in particular with the food aid at present being given to us by the United States and some Western countries. Maybe my interviewer has posed the question without having the facts.

The assistance given by the USSR to revolutionary Ethiopia cannot be compared to a limited amount of food, one just has to see — even during the celebration of our 10th anniversary of our revolution reflecting Ethiopia's growth in a short time, which it [Ethiopia] had not seen in the last 40 years — the building of various development institutions and industries and the question of how big a share the USSR and other socialist countries have contributed toward achieving this, will easily answer your question.

The development institutions opened in our recent revolutionary celebration also show this, namely the support given to this. Various economic projects at the stage of implementation can also be (?used as an example). Concerning relief aid, we have been assisted. USSR helicopters and airplanes are now transporting (?three-quarters) of the relief aid to various parts of our country. As you know, the Arab world refused us fuel, and the fuel which we are using to activate our economy and [deal with] the current dangerous situation comes from the USSR.

I have not made this explanation in short, so as to compare the assistance, but actually because I had to explain [words indistinct], we value the aid and goodwill from the other side and feel indebted. [end recording]

The money spent for the celebrations of the 10th anniversary was at a time when the drought was beginning and it has left you open to criticism. Could not this expense at least have been reduced? This question was from the BBC. The comrade chairman replies:

[Begin Mengistu recording] I am glad the question has arisen, thank you. As I stated earlier, when some international journalists came to Ethiopia, saw the damage, understood the extent, and were instrumental in getting this aid by reporting the situation to the rest of the world, others are making efforts to stop or to end this humanitarian aid. We regret this.

They have spread false and baseless reports by quoting figures showing that we spent a lot of money on the celebrations and the like while the people were suffering.

If you study carefully the commitment of duty and the goals of Ethiopia's revolutionaries, the government, the WPE, and generally that of the working peoples and the entire population, we live for the people we serve. We have no interest other than the interests and desires of the people. Our goal is the social goal of one for all and all for one. Hence in this country not a single penny or birr is put to use on the wishes and desires of certain groups of individuals, rather money is spent on the wishes and desires of the people and for the people. If this is done we will be afraid not of the criticism that comes from outside, but of that from our own people. Right now, I am telling you this in front of the people. On the other hand, it is true, we know that numerous tasks and much progress are awaited by our people.

But through our efforts in the last 10 years they are now an organized and conscious people. We have celebrated [word indistinct] the 10th anniversary of our revolution. [Word indistinct] we can easily organize our people within seconds or hours for any activity. Our people are a people who can help themselves easily and cheaply by using their own creativity, hence the display of achievements made over the last 10 years. Celebrating our revolution is seen to have a special charter, and why the building of an assembly hall has become an object of criticism over the 10th anniversary celebration is not clear to me. We did not have a central assembly hall in this country, a country as ancient and great as Ethiopia.

The assembly hall is not only for the 10th anniversary celebrations, but for the general service of our community. We have built an assembly hall using cheap material, at a very low cost and within a short time. It is not more than 2 km away, you can go and see it. For the completion of this congress in general and for the material we imported, for the construction and for its various [word indistinct], we spent 19 million birr.

We built a monument with the assistance of the DPRK in memory of our heroes who lost their lives while fighting for the unity and revolution of Ethiopia.

We regret the reports saying that we have spent hundreds of million of birr. In fact it is an interference in our affairs, but I replied to the question since it was raised and in order to tell the truth. It is (?regrettable) that we should be criticized and told from outside what kind of kitchen or living room to build. You will hear various [word indistinct] and very weak reports on this

and similar issues from some weak journalists, and it is to explain this that I replied to the question. [end recording]

Do you believe that aid is reaching all victims in the regions where it is said that there are conflicts? This is the other question from the BBC, and the comrade chairman replies:

[Begin Mengistu recording] It is very good that this question was brought up. We hear of the issues raised by some sides in various corners, who want to further their aims through the humanitarian aid being given to ease the problems caused by the drought. This is another scheme being made against the internal affairs of Ethiopia, its unity, and revolution by using this assistance for forcing political negotiation with rebels in the northern region of our country, the region affected by the drought, saying that this aid cannot reach everyone because of the existence of secessionists in the region.

It is true, it is not something which we deny. There are some terrorists in some parts and some corners of our country. After moving around some of the forests and mountains, they live by stealing from these peasants who are suffering. There are also certain merceneries who are the tools of the forces who oppose the economic system pursued by Ethiopia. We do not deny this. But the majority of such terrorist merceneries and mafias are not in Ethiopia. There are terrorists and mafias in every European country who kill leaders in broad daylight and destroy property. So what is just? That these terrorists be brought to justice or that they be given a political forum in the name of humanitarian aid? Is this a humanitarian view? Is it not interfering in the internal affairs of a country and violating the sovereignty and unity of a country?

We have heard of efforts made in other parts of Africa to use the temporary natural and man-made problems and weaknesses of some countries to blind African countries to apartheid, the most revolting system of our time and help apartheid. Now we see some quarters, who have a similar objective and desire, trying, individually or as a team, to use the current drought in Ethiopia. This is something which cannot be tried in Ethiopia. It cannot be contemplated, let alone carried out. We will never negotiate with terrorists, let alone now. Even at a time in our past history when the fascists were raining poison on our people, our people never negotiated with fire. Hence society will, through its own ways and means, control these terrorists.

The terrorists are not an important obstacle to our current relief and rehabilitation program. We do not want or expect any advice or mediation from any corner on this issue. There is no area or region where the terrorists have hindered us from carrying out our tasks. We can show you the relief and rehabilitation and resettlement program we carried out in Eritrea some 2 or 3 years ago. We have repaired the dam, hospital, clinic, bridges, reservoirs, and power station that the terrorists destroyed. I believe that many journalists have seen this. They can carry out limited, unimportant acts of banditry under cover of darkness against peasants who receive assistance.

Our [word indistinct] is deployed together with the relief and rehabilitation program and gives society the necessary protection and guard. [end recording]

Among the resolutions passed by the 20th OAU summit, which was successfully completed, is one dealing on drought. What are the practical measures that will be taken in this respect? The question was from Serto Ader. Comrade Mengistu replies:

[Begin Mengistu recording] What I consider to be the special result or victory of the 20th OAU summit is the fact that it not only emerged from the obstacles of the last 3 years, but that it focused on and passed resolutions on current problems of the continent. Let us look at the issues in general that the summit discussed in the last few days.

Great focus was given to economics, on the plan to establish an African economic community by the year 2000, and the progress made so far at the regional level. A resolution was passed for an assessment to be made and for various teams of experts to be established so as to realize the goal. An implementation resolution has also been passed [word indistinct] through the recent meeting of the ministers of planning and development. As we are backward and are disadvantaged by the current distribution of world finances and development, and after assessing some of Africa's special problems and historical realities, discussions were held and a resolution was passed on the establishment of a special fund for Africa's development, after holding discussions and negotiations with various international communities and organizations and the World Bank. This is important and historical.

Another important resolution is one that was passed on the establishment of another special fund or financial institution to come to the assistance of our compatriots who are victims of natural disasters in some parts of the continent, without just waiting for international aid, but to coordinate international aid and use the ability of Africans to overcome our problems by ourselves.

I have dealt only generally on the major economic issues. In the political field, the organization has reached some concrete resolutions and formulated (?struggle plans) after holding extensive discussions on Namibia and South Africa and the decolonization process which has been going on for the last 20 years. In brief, these are the priorities and the results of the organization on the political and economic issues and we are satisfied that, after most of us have emerged from our problems, our organization has quickly focused on fruitful and appropriate African issues and come to decisions. [end recording]

The 13th question from Revolutionary Ethiopia TV was: How do you view the racist South African regime's aggression and destablization scheme against frontline states, Angola and Mozambique in particular, in addition to its unjust oppression of the peoples of Namibia and South Africa?

[Begin Mengistu recording] As I tried to explain in an earlier reply, our organization is currently focusing on Namibia and South Africa in its task of decolonization. As we all know, if it had been according to the wishes of the world community and the resolutions of the United Nations, Namibia would have been independent, but the main obstacle holding up the independence of Namibia is the present scheme to delay Namibian independence by linking the independence issue with the presence of

Cuban troops in Angola, who are there at request of the independent state of Angola.

This is the repeated stand of Africans and that of the rest of the world. Angola is an independent state. As long as it is an independent state it has the right to have relations with any independent state in any form it wishes. If we consider the situation with an open and just heart, which country is willing, developing or developed, to have such rights denied? I consider this as not only hindering Namibian independence, but questioning the independence of Angola. And so, we do not say that at present there is justice and law. Economic ability and military might plays the biggest role. In view of this it is a must that one should struggle and work even under these conditions. Nevertheless, Africa and other peace-loving countries oppose this illegal effort to delay or obstruct Namibia's independence.

SWAPO, the Namibian people, and Africa see Namibian independence from different angles. First there is the continuing struggle for independence at all available forums in accordance with the UN resolution. This tries to establish if there exist peaceful means to solve the problem either directly or indirectly with all those concerned whether legal or illegal. But since no one believes that the South African racist regime will grant independence to Namibia of its own free will, the Namibian people must continue the armed struggle more efficiently to realize this objective. These and such like it are solutions to the issue. It was at this summit, more than any other time, that Africa pledged to give all the necessary moral, material, and diplomatic support in an increased form to the Namibian people under the leadership of SWAPO in order to attain this goal. [end recording]

The UN secretary general, after visiting the drought-affected areas, has pledged that he will coordinate aid from donor and humanitarian organizations for the settlement program. In line with that, could you explain how the resettlement program is being carried out. The question was from the ETHIOPIAN NEWS AGENCY.

[Begin Me istu recording] Before I explain the type and extent of the resettlement and rehabilitation program, I want to use this opportunity to express my gratitude to the UN secretary general for being present at the OAU summit and seeing the problem for himself by visiting the affected areas and for his heroic efforts to solve the Ethiopian problem in line with his powers.

The UN has decided to form a liaison office to be led by an under secretary to assess the drought problem in Ethiopia and coordinate aid from the outside for an immediate and permanent solution and to follow up on its implementation. This office will be based in Ethiopia. It has also been decided to form another body in the UN office to provide backup. In general, the UN has promised us that there is a good chance for collecting and making available [words indistinct] financial aid for the emergency and rehabilitation program. In fact, this is a promise and its type and extent will be known when it is implemented.

When we say that one of the major steps taken in the context of these expected pledges, and through the priority given by the Ethiopian Government and through the people's efforts, is the resettlement program, bascially we expect to settle millions of people. But our short- and long-term objective at present is to settle 500,000 heads of families. If there is one point that I would like to stress, it is that apart from the relief aid that we have received, the aid that we have been pledged is insufficient to direct the resettlement program effectively. In fact, the support that we need to overcome this problem is immense. I believe that all of you here will understand how much we depend on aid donors. At this time, I would like to call on international journalists for your humanitarian cooperation on behalf of our compatriots who receive aid. [end recording]

Reportage on Visit by Japan's Shintaro Abe

Discloses Drought Aid

EA201235 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0900 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] The Japanese Government has decided to give $7.4 million in aid to bolster Ethiopia's efforts to alleviate the drought problems affecting the population.

This was disclosed last night by Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe at a press conference for national and international journalists at the Hilton Hotel in Addis Ababa, where he spoke on the Japanese Government's efforts to save drought victims, in line with the Ethiopian Government's programs.

In his statement, Mr Abe pointed out that the Japanese Government has set aside $200 million aid for alleviating drought problems in Africa. He said the money will be used to buy agricultural implements, food, and provide backup for the agricultural sector of the economy.

During his short stay in revolutionary Ethiopia, Mr Abe discussed the prevailing drought situation, the progress of the revolution, and various international issues with our comrade revolutionary leader. He also inspected the aid distribution and shelter centers in Mekele.

Meets With Goshu Wolde

EA202236 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Comrade Goshu Wolde, Workers Party of Ethiopia Central Committee member and minister of foreign affairs, today held talks with Mr Shintaro Abe, the Japanese foreign minister, who is currently on a working visit to Ethiopia.

During the meeting, Comrade Goshu Wolde said that Ethiopia would take the necessary steps to strengthen relations between the two countries.

Comrade Goshu explained the government's priority tasks in the efforts to contain the natural disaster in Ethiopia and pointed out the fields in which assistance was needed.

During their talks, the two ministers also held discussions on bilateral relations and on ways to further strengthen relations between the two countries.

Talks With Labor Minister

EA210002 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Comrade Birhanu Bayeh, Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPE] Central Committee Politburo member and minister of labor and social affairs, today held talks at his office with Mr Shintaro Abe, the Japanese foreign minister.

In a speech during the talks with Mr Abe and his delegation, Comrade Birhanu said that the current drought in our country had caused suffering to many of our compatriots. He added that the drought had not come about suddenly, but had been going on for many years and was deeply rooted. He said that the problem had been worsened by deforestation, the failure of rains to come on time, and land erosion.

Comrade Birhanu said that at present the revolutionary government was making great efforts to find a lasting solution to the problems of our compatriots affected by the drought and make them self-reliant. He also explained the programs drawn up in the fields of resettlement, development, and in the agricultural sector in general to contain and solve the problem. He said that while the task of moving the settlers from their area to another area was enormous, there was enough experience in the resettlement program. He added that huge assistance was needed from charitable and donor countries to carry out this task.

Comrade Birhanu then expressed his belief that the friendship and cooperation between Japan and Ethiopia would be further strengthened in the future and added that the assistance from the Japanese Government for our compatriots affected by drought had this aim in view. For his part, Mr Abe said that he had properly understood the seriousness of the problems of our compatriots and that additional aid was needed to contain this problem.

SOMALIA

Barre on Conflict with Ethiopia, Red Sea

NC210850 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0730 GMT 21 Nov 84

[Text] Cairo, 21 Nov (MENA) — Somali President Siad Barre has said that King Husayn's step to restore relations with Egypt is an excellent one. Barre emphasized that if the Arab nation was seeking to serve its interests, then it must readmit Egypt to the Arab fold and restore relations with it.

In an interview with Egypt's *AKHIR SA'AH* magazine published today, Barre denied that there were disturbances and unrest in Somalia. He said: "Foreign journalists have visited all the places which [words indistinct] about the existence of disturbances in them but did not find anything. However, this does not exclude the fact that there are hostile information media in the world which are publishing many such rumors. However, these rumors are false."

Referring to the situation in the Horn of Africa, Barre affirmed that tension and the loss of people in his country and Ethiopia is continuing daily. He expressed his country's readiness to enter into a dialogue and to discuss any problems with the Ethiopians to reach a comprehensive, durable, and just solution, provided they withdraw from the two areas they have occupied since 1982.

Barre underlined the need to keep the Red Sea, which is an important international waterway, from being an area of competition, and from any attempt at terrorism, such as laying mines in it. In this context he said: "The Red Sea littoral states have the major duty of protecting navigation in this waterway."

Referring to the question of Arabizing his country, Barre affirmed that it will be implemented. However, he expressed regret that some Arab countries have not helped Somalia in this task.

Radio Halgan Reports Rebel Operations

Counteroffensive Against Village Attacks

LD202125 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 19 Nov 84

[Text] Units of the justice-seeking Somali National Movement [SNM] wing of the Somali opposition forces clashed with enemy troops at Daba Goreyale and Gedbalad villages on 16 November following an attempt by troops of the Mogadishu regime to attack the villages.

Reports reaching us from Gedbalad in Gebile District and Daba Goreyale in Ood Weyne District say that on 16 November the troops still loyal to the Mogadishu regime attempted to attack the villages in order to harm the civilians and the freedom fighters in the vicinity, but the reports say the SNM freedom fighters and the Somali public in those areas jointly launched counteroffensives and ambushes causing heavy life and material losses to the enemy. In the fighting, the troops of the Mogadishu regime lost two troop transport trucks and an armored vehicle, which were completely destroyed together with all those aboard. Three SNM fighters were wounded.

DFSS Wing Reports Successes

EA202203 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 19 Nov 84

[Text] Fighters of the 9th Gen Aynanshe Division of the DFSS wing of the Somali opposition forces, who have lately been carrying out active operations against the bases of the Mogadishu regime troops and the Mudugh and Nugaal section of the main road linking the northern and southern parts of the country, killed 16 enemy soldiers and inflicted heavy military losses on the enemy this week.

The reports from the 9th Gen Aynanshe Division go on to say that the front's fighters killed a senior officer of the enemy forces of Siad Barre, Capt Abdillahi Mahumud, and five other soldiers, as well as destroying their first vehicle following an ambush by commandos from the 9th Gen Aynanshe Division along the main north-south road near Burtinle in Nugaal region on 16 November. The reports add that the servants of Siad Barre's regime have now started reprisals against civilians, as well as looting their

property. The reports confirm that the soldiers still loyal to the Mogadishu regime have killed many people in the Nugaal and Mudugh regions following operations against the enemy troops in the past weeks.

Training Camp Attacked

EA202247 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] The Radio Halgan representative at the battle zones of the Somali National Movement [SNM] forces has confirmed that liberation wars are fiercely going on in the northwest regions and in Togdher. Our representative, filing a report this morning, said that in this week's fighting between the justified fighters and the enemy forces, the fighters had the upper hand with the support of the justice-loving Somali people. In the fighting going on in the mountain areas, towns, and major roads linking the northwest regions and Togdher, the liberation fighters have defeated the enemy in the mountain areas and roads linking the northern regions. The roads linking the districts in the northwest region and Togdher are still closed and manned by SNM justice-seeking fighters.

The SNM fighters at the beginning of the week killed 71 enemy soldiers at the Army training camp in Adaldleh about 60 km east of Hargeisa, near the Gacan Libax mountain area. Our reporter at Gacan Libax says the SNM fighters launched a surprise attack on the Army training camp in Hargeisa District, where the Mogadishu clique was training some of the soldiers referred to by the nation-wrecking regime as a crack force which counters civilians opposed to the evil regime. The reporter adds that of the 72 soldiers undergoing training, only one escaped. The liberation forces inflicted heavy losses in their surprise attack, destroying the training equipment there and camp constructions. The liberation forces fighters returned to base safely.

CHAD

France Gives Libya Deadline To Withdraw Troops

NC202147 Paris AFP in English 1919 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Ndjamena, Nov 20 (AFP) — France is giving Libya "1 or 2 weeks" to evacuate the remainder of its forces from northern Chad, government sources said here today after yesterday's visit by French Defense Minister Charles Hernu.

Meanwhile reliable sources said the government of Hissein Habre had reinforced its troops in the north and northeast of the country to meet "any eventuality" from the Libyan-backed rebels of former President Goukouni Oueddei in that area.

The commander in chief of Mr Habre's Chadian National Armed Forces was at Kelait in the northeast and Defence Minister Captain Ndilnodji Guelhor was at Kouba Olanga in the north, the sources said.

Chadian Information Minister Soumaila Mahamat said that the visit of Mr Hernu and French Chief of the General Staff General Jeannou Lacaze had ended the argument between Ndjamena and Paris over whether Libyan forces remained in Chad after Tripoli had said they had all left in line with the September 16 agreement with France.

Mr Soumaila said the government here was now convinced that France would be "sufficiently firm" in ensuring that Libya kept to the agreement, and the use of force could be avoided.

A reliable source said that Mr Hernu and General Lacaze had discussed future options in three hours of talks with Mr Habre. Mr Soumaila said the basic choice was between sending a "deterrent force" or a "dynamic force," if the Libyans did not go. The Ndjamena Government was in favor of a "dynamic force," Mr Soumaila added.

'Intelligence' Says Libyans Not Offensive

PM201444 Paris LE MONDE in French 18-19 Nov 84 p 3

[Unattributed report: "The Battalions Which Have Remained Have No Real Offensive Capability"]

[Text] Mr Mitterrand cited the assessments made by the French intelligence services in the middle of this week that the Libyan military presence in northern Chad amounted to a little fewer than 1,000 men, and he expressed the view that this number of men was the equivalent of two or three battalions of the Libyan regular Army.

Indeed, although the battalions remain the basic unit of the Libyan Army, which is based on the British model, the Libyan forces south of the Aouzou Strip are not structured in organized battalions; they are fairly heterogeneous and dispersed, according to the French intelligence services. The 1,000 or so Libyan soldiers are divided essentially between Faya-Largeau and Fada — two palm groves in northern Chad — but they do not have adequate logistics to make them offensive or to give them the capacity to carry out major maneuvers.

The interpretation given by these same intelligence sources is that the Libyan military presence is there to observe. Its present force, which is far from possible theaters of operations, does not enable it to support an offensive action by the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] toward the south and, at the same time, it is incapable of staging intensive operations in the direction of Ndjamena itself.

These 1,000 or so Libyan soldiers amount to around 20 percent of Tripoli's forces, at its maximum, when it came to back the Chadian dissidents in the north.

But the military situation has changed considerably compared with that maximum. Indeed, the Libyan battalions still in the country before the Crete meeting [between French President Mitterrand and Libyan leader Al-Qadhdhafi] have no heavy weapons since the T-55 tanks and the Crotale or SAM air defense missiles with which the Libyan occupation forces were hitherto equipped have been completely withdrawn, according to the French intelligence services.

On the other hand, constant helicopter flights are being observed (around 10 were counted this week between Faya-Largeau and Fada) although it is impossible to analyze the objective reasons for such movements. Similarly, the presence of around 10 Marchetti SF-260 propellor training aircraft, which can carry missiles and a machine gun, could be explained by the Libyan general staff's desire to adopt a so-called "prohibition" posture against possible raids by the Chadian National Armed Forces, which want to try to recapture the occupied northern palm groves from the GUNT.

There has been nothing comparable on the French side since the withdrawal of the Manta Force, (around 3,200 men and 3,500 metric tons of various kinds of weapon) which has been returned to France or dispersed as reinforcements to Cameroon, Gabon, and the Central African Republic, where it has been decided to maintain a strong air support unit in case it should be needed.

In Ndjamena itself, the contingent of French military advisers and technical assistants, which comprises around 100 men, is to be increased to 150.

Ndjamena Calls for French Troop Presence

AB202200 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] After the meeting in Greece between Francois Mitterrand and Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the world does not really understand what the co-signatories of the 16 September agreement said about Chad, all the more so because most observers think that the ball is in France's court since Al-Qadhdhafi has refused to respect the deadline for the application of the Tripoli agreement. The ball is in Paris' court because Al-Qadhdhafi's failure to honor his commitment can only be consid-

ered a slap in the face to France, which would like to serve as a model in international relations.

It is sure and certain that the French head of state was not satisfied with Al-Qadhdhafi's behavior. That is the least one can say, because after the Crete island meeting, the French president disclosed that thousands of Libyan soldiers are still in Chad in violation of the 16 September agreement. After this French assertion, which confirmed what the Chadians knew already — that is the simulated withdrawal of the invasionary forces — the French merely reacted by sending planes from the CAR to Chad to fly over the capital and four districts of central Chad before returning to their base.

Next, the French defense minister and chief of general staff of the French Army came to Ndjamena for talks with the president of the Republic, El Hadj Hissein Habre. Their talks were certainly on the Libyan military presence in Chad and [words indistinct], Chad's desire to see the French forces use operational and not dissuasive methods. After this visit by two French personalities of the Defense Ministry, we learned that 250 French soldiers had been put on the alert and that they could intervene at any time in Chad and that a new deadline had been set for Tripoli by the Elysee for the withdrawal of its troops.

In Malta, where he gave a press conference yesterday, the Libyan head of state asserted, and I quote: Libya will no longer have planes, tanks, and soldiers in Chad. It is totally committed, on the other hand, to support the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT]. Unquote. This statement is full of information. First, before deciding not to send his Army to Chad, Al-Qadhdhafi must end the current presence of his troops there, which he is not doing. Next, the Libyan colonel is clearly showing that his troops will never leave Chad because he states that he is committed to totally supporting his protegee. What a contradiction!

As national and international opinion know what is left of the GUNT, it is obvious that without the Libyan troops, without the tanks and the planes, the GUNT would no longer exist. By declaring its total support to a Balkanized government, Al-Qadhdhafi is declaring war on Chad in terms which [words indistinct].

It is therefore in regard to this, that is the behavior of Al-Qadhdhafi, that the Chadian authorities would like their French friends to be more consistent in their relations with our country. First, France claims to be the defender of the sovereignty and integrity of states, which Chad thinks should make it act promptly. Therefore, in the face of a situation involving the nonrespect of an agreement by a co-signatory, which constitutes a violation of [words indistinct], France must respond accordingly.

Chadians would not want friendly soldiers to be sent in with the intention of watching over Ndjamena, as is often said in certain circles. They would prefer an effective, strong, and operational presence of French troops since Al-Qadhdhafi only understands the language of force.

Rebel Leader Cites Habre Regime Atrocities

AB201308 Paris AFP in English 1002 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Brazzaville, Nov 20 (AFP) — A rebel leader from southern Chad has accused the Army of President Hissein Habre of committing atrocities in the region and said farmers were boycotting the area's crucial cotton harvest in protest.

Pascal Yoadim-Nadji, vice-president of the Chadian People's Revolutionary Movement (MRP), listed a series of alleged assassinations and acts of destruction by government forces against the civilian population of four southern provinces between June and October.

Speaking yesterday in an interview, Mr Yoadim-Nadji said one of those killed by the Army was former Foreign Minister Djiraibaye Doralta, who served in 1973 in the government of Francois Tombalbaye. He did not say when or where the former official had benn killed. The MRP leader said a total of 292 people had been arrested and tortured or executed, naming among the victims Ndem Wayor, head doctor at the hospital in Sarh; Djamadji Moussa, director of a state vegetable oil firm; and Ngarari Yamassoum, a customs inspector. Other people cited included a Sarh police commissioner, a Senegalese student, and the sub-prefect in Beinamar, in West Logone Province.

Mr Yoadim-Nadji added that 30 MRP militants who rallied to the government forces had been summarily executed September 6 at Deli, in West Logone, and listed nearly 337 villages he said had been razed during recent anti-insurgency operations in the region. He listed incidents in Moissala District as among the worst, saying troops from the Special Presidential Rapid Strike Force had looted and razed every shop and private home there on September 4, killing residents who were unable to flee.

Turning to the status of rebel forces in the south, where a number of geographically separate commando bands have reportedly been escalating armed attacks in recent months, Mr Yoadim-Nadji said his movement, while not controlling any towns, held sway over large parts of the countryside. He also indicated that a military reorganization of the rebel forces was underway in an effort to improve coordination among the various groups, a claim supported recently by statements from informed sources in the Chadian capital, Ndjamena.

Finally, Mr Yoadim-Nadji said that farmers of cotton, Chad's main export crop and a key money earner for the Ndjamena government, had responded to an MRP call to boycott this year's harvest. He gave no figures on the number of farmers involved or the potential impact of the boycott on the quantity of cotton harvested.

ZAIRE

Shaba Residents Asked To Denounce 'Suspects'

AB202115 Paris AFP in English 1858 GMT 14 Nov 84

[Excerpts] Kinshasa, Nov 20 (AFP) — The governor of Zaire's Shaba Province has called on local residents to denounce "sus-

pects" involved in last week's armed uprising in the provincial center of Moba, official media reported today.

Mandungu Bula Nyati made his appeal during a march in support of the government at Kalemie, 200 kilometres (125 miles) north of Moba, from which government troops were dispatched down Lake Tanganyika to quell the uprising. Governor Mandungu called on the population of Shaba to mobilize against "marginal" and "anti-party" elements, without defining what they were. Authoritative sources here have denied claims by exiled opposition groups that they were mutinous Zairian soldiers.

There was no news today of the progress of "cleaning up operations" in the area, or the fate of two Zairian officers captured by the rebels. Religious sources in the Shaba provincial capital of Lumumbashi said one was a general staff officer.

Exile Disputes Version of Uprising
NC201124 Paris AFP in English 1116 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Brussels, Nov 20 (AFP) — Exiled former Zairean Premier Nguza Karl-I-Bond has challenged Zairean Government claims that an armed uprising last week in the country's Shaba Province was launched by rebels based in neighboring Tanzania, saying the incident was actually a mutiny by government soldiers.

In an interview published today by the Belgian daily *LE SOIR*, Mr Karl-I-Bond added that the mutineers, stationed in the remote town of Moba on the shores of Lake Tanganyika, took control of the town Monday along with opposition guerrillas based in the surrounding mountains. Government paratroopers sent from the capital, Kinshasa, recaptured the town after heavy fighting Thursday and Friday, during which Zairean authorities said more than 100 guerrillas and 11 civilians were killed.

The Zairean Government strongly protested to Tanzania and Belgium after releasing what it said was information obtained from two captured insurgents showing that the attacke was organized by Zairean exiles in Brussels and launched from Tanzanian territory.

Mr Karl-I-Bond said the government accusations against Brussels and Dar es Salaam aimed to "show that the Army was united in the face of a pretended foreign threat." He added that the Zairean charges, coming before a planned visit early next month by French President Francois Mitterrand, were a way of "practicing blackmail" in order to set France and Belgium against one another just weeks before a Belgian-Zairean military cooperation accord is due to expire.

BENIN

Soviet Trade Union Delegation Concludes Visit

AB202216 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 0615 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] The delegation of the Union of Workers in the Chemical and Petrochemical Industries of the Soviet Union has ended its visit to our country.

For 1 week, the delegation, which included (Azenui Orlov) and (Leonid Brezlev), held many working sessions with officials of the Federation of Construction, Energy, Oil, Mines, and Public Works Unions of the People's Republic of Benin.

At their various sessions, the two sides reviewed the life and the situation of the international working class in general and those of the Beninese and Soviet workers in particular.

In order to get an idea of the situation of the Beninese workers in various sectors, the Soviet delegation visited the National Petroleum Products Marketing Company, the (Saga) Petroleum Company, the Agbetri soap factory, the Sobegi [expansion unknown], and the Beninoise [national brewery company].

(Azenui Orlov) and (Leonid Brezlev) also did some sightseeing. They visited various companies, historic places, and museums in Abomey, Porto-Novo, and Ouidah, as well as the Ganvie Lake village.

GHANA

DPRK Envoy Calls for Strengthening Cultural Ties

AB202212 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] The ambassador of the DPRK in Accra, Chang Tu-ho, has expressed his country's willingness to assist in the development of Ghana.

He therefore called for the strengthening of cultural cooperation between the two countries to ensure the publication of correct information about them at all times. He was speaking at two separate meetings with the secretary for culture and tourism, Dr Ben Abdallah, and the secretary for information, Adali-Mortty, in Accra today.

The North Korean ambassador explained that this can be achieved through exchange programs. It can include the exchange of artists, musicians, dancers, acrobats, and journalists. Chang Tu-ho noted with much satisfaction the efforts being made by Ghanaians to build a new society.

The secretary for culture and tourism, Dr Ben Abdallah, said Ghana wholeheartedly accepts the offer of cooperation and assistance. He said Ghana believes in positive neutralism and nonalignment. The secretary for information, Adali-Mortty, on his part, accepted an invitation to visit North Korea.

GUINEA

Foreign Minister Returns Home, Comments on OAU

AB210806 Conakry Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 16 Nov 84

[Excerpts] The delegation of the Military Committee for National Redress [CMRN] and of the government, which represented our country at the 20th OAU summit in Addis Ababa, arrived in Conakry this morning.

Following many requests by news agencies to learn of Guinea's policies, particularly on the Chadian and Western Sahara issues, Foreign Minister Facine Toure, who led the Guinean delegation to the summit, granted an interview to the PAN-AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY, to *AFRIQUE-ASIE*, and to Radio Mali.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Mr Minister, this is the first time a CMRN representative has attended an OAU summit. First of all, I would like to ask you about your impressions after these 3 days in Addis Ababa.

[Toure] In the first place, I would like to thank you sincerely. I will start by telling you why we have come to Addis Ababa. The delegation of the Republic of Guinea has come to Addis Ababa with the conviction that the continental organization has many genuine African problems to discuss and that the Western Sahara problem, which has blocked it so far, should henceforth be transcended. It is clear that the continental organization was created for specific problems of Africa. It was created for the happiness of the African peoples.

In fact, the Chadian and Western Sahara issues have deservedly preoccupied us for about 4 years, particularly that of Western Sahara. They have almost paralyzed our continental organization. Now we are of the view that it is time we transcend them and face the ills which are undermining us, as well as the daily economic development problems now confronting our peoples and countries. This is why the Republic of Guinea decided to attend the summit. Although it has not recognized the SDAR, Guinea has decided to take part in the summit not to back the admission of the SDAR in the OAU, but to ensure the holding of the summit for the survival of the continental organization.

[Reporter] By the way, what do you think about the summit procedures concerning the Chadian and Western Sahara issues?

[Toure] Concerning the summit procedures, we think that all the participants have done their best so that the summit can take place. Nevertheless, we must have the courage to recognize that the organization's Charter, as well as its principles, were ignored concerning the admission of the SDAR. Concerning Chad, we have made our views known a very long time ago: We said that it is up to the Chadians and only to them to solve their problems. We believe that with the withdrawal of foreign troops from that country there is a gleam of hope and that the Chadians can take this opportunity to gather around a negotiating table for national unity in the interest of the Chadian people, since in fact, those who have been dying in Chad are only Chadians.

[Reporter] The Chadian foreign minister has stated that he did not believe at all in the total withdrawal of the Libyans from Chad.

He referred to the Islamic Legion and the black elements of the Libyan population, which means that Libya is not ready to leave Chadian territory completely. What do you think about this statement? Do you think such statements can help in organizing a meeting between Chadians as you wish?

[Toure] If my Chadian counterpart has made such statements, he has his reason to do so. Anyway, we are of the view that since Libya has pledged before the international community to withdraw its troops from Chad, there is no reason not to do so immediately.

Concerning another Chadian reconciliation meeting, I think that it is still possible if all of us join hands — I mean all the peace-and-justice-loving African countries — with the Chadians, there is no reason why they cannot meet again. But if our actions are divergent, this meeting will not be possible.

[Reporter] Mr Minister, this summit has provided you the opportunity to meet the whole of Africa in Addis Ababa. Did you take the opportunity to have some contacts?

[Toure] As you know, on such occasions you must always take the opportunity to make contacts. In fact, you meet many counterparts, many heads of state.

I must tell you that I have had many contacts and I believe that they have been beneficial, since some of them have enabled us to make clear our positions and our way of viewing the various problems which have preoccupied us.

[Reporter] Have you had any contacts with the Moroccan delegation?

[Toure] Yes, I have. I must say that already the day after my arrival I had my first contact with the Moroccan delegation which was introduced to me that day by the Moroccan foreign minister. We made it clear to this brother and friend that we had made our stand known very early, that is, concerning the Saharan issue, we favor the implementation of Resolution 104.

We also said that we have not come to Addis Ababa for the Western Sahara issue. We have asked Morocco to continue making all the necessary sacrifices, all that is necessary for the holding of the summit, so that our organization survives. [end recording]

MALI

Briefs

Envoy Presents Credentials— Seydou (Narea), Mali's new representative to the United Nations, yesterday presented his credentials to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar. [Excerpt] [*Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 20 Nov 84 AB*]

NIGERIA

Doe Honored by Buhari, Ends 2-Day Visit

AB201835 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] The Liberian head of state, Commander General Samuel Doe, left Lagos today at the end of a 2-day official visit to Nigeria. He was seen off at the Murtala Mohamed Airport by the head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, and other top government officials.

In a speech at a dinner party held in honor of the Liberian leader in Lagos yesterday, Gen Buhari spoke of the need for Nigeria and Liberia to intensify efforts in directing and mobilizing Africa for concerted action against its numerous problems. He remarked that the OAU had settled down with a unity of purpose and a new realism after 2 years of crises. The head of state stressed the need for Namibia's independence and South Africa's freedom, pointing out that freedom for the two territories could not be separated from the national pride and true independence of any member nation of the OAU.

Gen Buhari also commented on the Nigeria-Liberia joint commission set up in 1979 and called for its reactivation. He said the commission should be revised to identify mutual areas of cooperation and consolidate the friendly relations between the two countries. Gen Buhari remarked that the official opening of the Liberian Embassy by the Liberian leader demonstrated the wish of the government and people of that country to reinforce the traditional bonds of friendship wirth Nigeria. The head of state recalled that in 1979 General Olusegun Obasanjo took the opportunity of the Monrovia OAU summit to open the Nigerian Embassy in that country, which today remains an imposing testimony to the hgih esteem in which Nigeria holds her relations with Liberia.

Responding, the Liberian leader called for a framework of program [as heard] between Nigeria and Liberia to enhance bilateral relations. He stated that both countries held important posts in the continent and were in the vanguard of African liberation. Nigeria and Liberia, he said, were parties to the establishment of the Economic Community of West African States, ECOWAS. The Liberian leader wanted the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action towards the total freedom of Africa, since the economic future of Africa appeared bleak. He appealed to African nations to abide by the OAU motto of freedom and untiy for the development of the continent. Dr Doe had earlier thanked the government and people of Nigeria for the warm hospitality accorded him and his entourage.

Envoy Denies Reports on Alleged Coup Attempt

AB200951 Lagos NAN in English 0848 GMT 20 Nov 84

[By James Bello]

[Text] Nairobi, Nov 19 (NAN) — Nigeria's high commissioner in Nairobi, Dr. Mahmoud Yahya, today denied reports in Kenya newspapers that 42 Nigerian army officers were executed for

their involvement in an alleged coup plot in the country. A statement issued by Dr Yahya said that the coup story, credited to the London *SUNDAY OBSERVER*, should be dismissed "with all the contempt it deserved." He explained that the decision to cancel the Nigerian national day celebration on Oct. 1 was taken at least one month in advance for purely economic reasons and "had no connection whatsoever with any coup plot as alleged in the reports."

Dr Yahya described the story as the wishful thinking of certain quarters in London where many enemies of the Nigerian Government have enjoyed the hospitality of the British Government. "In fact, these Nigerians have used the British media several times before to launch attacks on their home government against all accepted norms of protocol and the British Government has turned a blind eye to it," the East Africa correspondent of the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) quotes the diplomat as saying.

He stressed that neither the present Nigerian Government nor any of the previous ones had ever sentenced anyone to death without trial, adding that in spite of the involvement of the military in government, Nigeria had remained an open society with total freedom of expression. "If what the British *SUNDAY OBSERVER* alleged were true, the news would have come out of Nigeria first and not from London," the high commissioner said. He noted that "the *SUNDAY OBSERVER* is known for its tradition of published falsehood which brought its editors into direct conflict with the paper's publisher, Tiny Rowland, over the alleged rebel activities in Zimbabwe only a few months ago."

Dr Yahya remarked that the Nigeria armed forces are united and busy with the task of national reconstruction after the economy had been ravaged by "the *OBSERVER*'s fugitive friends in London and elsewhere."

An earlier government statement in Lagos described the coup plot story as "baseless, unfounded and arrant nonsense." It said that the story was a calculated attempt to bring the military administration to "ridicule and disrepute."

'Campaign of Denigration' Condemned

AB201218 Lagos International Service in English 0950 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Viewpoint]

[Text] The British media have since January this year mounted a campaign of calumny against Nigeria for some curious reason. This campaign was begun by the British Broadcasting Corporation, BBC, which threw open its World Service studios to Nigerian fugitives in Europe, giving them unlimited air time to attack the Nigerian Government. It was over this BBC that fugitive Umaru Dikko announced his plans to carry out what he called a jihad against Nigeria. Since then, the BBC and the British press have put out one false report after another calculated to denigrate Nigeria and her government.

Examples abound, but just a few will do. In July this year, the BBC and other British media organizations tried to link the Nigerian Government with the attempted kidnapping of fugitive Umaru Dikko in London. When they failed to convince the world, the BBC, in an attempt to present the Nigerian Government as barbaric, alleged that the crew and passengers of a British Caledonian airliner, detained in Lagos in retaliation for the arrest of a Nigerian Airways plane and crew, were maltreated. The pilot of the British plane not only refuted this wicked and malicious allegation, but also sent a letter to the station and to authorities in Lagos for the civilized treatment given him and his colleagues.

Another false British media report was the allegation that the managing director of Nigerian Airways, who undertook an official trip to the United Kingdom and some of other European countries, was smuggled out of Britain in a crate marked diplomatic baggage. It did not matter to the jaundiced British media that there was no cause for the managing director to want to escape from London or any other city.

The British media also published false reports claiming that Nigeria had pulled out of OPEC and the Commonwealth Organization. Many months after these allegations, Nigeria remained a strong and loyal member of these organizations. And only recently, the British media, in a deliberate act of misinformation, alleged that a first secretary in the Nigerian Embassy was jailed in the UK for drug offenses. The British media knew very well that the Nigerian in question was only a personal secretary and not a diplomat.

While their single-minded campaign to denigrate Nigeria demanded a distortion of the facts, against this background, last weekend's report by the London *OBSERVER* that 42 Army officers have been executed by the military government of Nigeria can be seen as a continuation of the effort by the British media to embarrass Nigeria and discredit her government before the rest of the world. As already stated by the Nigerian Government, the *OBSERVER* report is baseless and arrant nonsense.

It is clear that the so-called report is nothing but faking, otherwise the *OBSERVER* should have been able to give credibility to its story by publishing at least some of the names of the 42 officers allegedly executed. It should have dawned on the British media by now that the world is more civilized and intelligent than they thought. They are not fooling anybody with their misinformation and outright falsehood. In fact, their sustained campaign of denigration against Nigeria is an ill wind. It holds no good for Britain or any other country.

Border Police Reinforced at Benin Border

AB201745 Lagos NAN in English 1649 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Ilorin, Nov 20 (NAN) — The Kwara commissioner of police, Alhaji Saminu Daura, today in Ilorin said that the police had doubled its strength at the Kosubosu border point between Nigeria and Benin Republic, following another seizure, last Tuesday, of two trailers containing contrabands.

Speaking to newsmen after the display of the contrabands valued at about 4 million naira, Alhaji Daura said that twelve additional policemen, including officers, have been posted to the Kosubosu

and New Bussa border points, while a detachment of mounted troops have also been introduced to patrol the border. He said that men of his command were now involved in the anti-smuggling campaign in order to supplement the efforts of other agencies to reduce the activities of smugglers, which he said was on the increase. The commissioner said that the police investigation of the contrabands was a painstaking and continuous exercise and that he could not be definite on when the matter would be taken to court. The two trailers, believed to have originated from Lome, Togo, contained about 600 cartons of jeans trousers, 250 boxes of matches, and a large number of baby cots.

The latest seizure brings to four the number of trailers arrested with contraband by the police in the state within the last two weeks.

Tighter Border Security Urged

AB201740 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Clement Akitonde commentary]

[Text] One issue that has persistently posed a serious problem to many governments in the world is how to effectively control their borders with neighboring countries. While some of these governments have sleepless nights because of insurgents and subversive elements who cross over the borders from safe havens to neighboring countries, others have engaged in running battles with smugglers and traffickers.

In the Nigerian context, the problem of providing adequate security at our borders, either on land or at sea and airports, until recently had not been given adequate attention. It has always been easy for government functionaries to ascribe any shortcoming to the wide expanse of our borders with neighboring countries. Many mundane excuses have been given the officials of the government departments in charge of these borders, the most common being that it is humanly impossible to police. No matter the (?standpoints) of these arguments, the need to tighten security at our borders is not debatable because of recent happenings on two sectors vital to our survival as a nation. These two fronts are: the economy and defense. Twice in the last 2 years the sanctity of our borders had been invaded by soldiers from two neighboring countries — Chad amd Cameroon.

What it costs us to stem their unprovoked aggression in men and materials is not the point at issue, but how this nation could have been saved the serious embarrassment if we adequately protected our borders. On the economic front, the damage that was done to the economy by smugglers and traffickers in both currency and drugs became glaring after the closure of the borders early this year. Suddenly goods and some household items that were very scarce in our markets resurfaced.

The border closure revealed that all along citizens from a neighboring country, in collaboration with some unscrupulous Nigerians, have been buying these goods produced for local consumption and taking them away across the borders. Even essential items that our government imported with scarce foreign exchange have been found in some of these neighboring countries. What is even more alarming is the ease with which some undesirable elements from these countries enter our borders. Despite the repatriation of illegal aliens 2 years ago, hardly is there a Nigerian city where you do not find them now doing manual labor. This brings us to the patriotic and nationalistic instinct of our customs and immigration officials at the borders posts.

Stories abound as to how some of these illegal aliens pay their way into the country, though these stories are bound to be exaggerated. But it is an incontrovertible fact that the Customs and Immigration Departments do have a few bad eggs. Recent steps to deal with these men and women are most welcomed, but they must be stepped up and made a continuous process. Also, the announcement by the minister of internal affairs, Major General Mahamadou Magoro, that the Department of Customs and Excise, at present under the Ministry of Finance, will come under his ministry as from next year is a well considered development.

The issue of vigilance, not only at our borders but also everywhere in the country, is very pertinent now, more than at any time, particularly now that the British press is agog with all types of imaginary coups and executions that never took place in the country. All Nigerians knew why the 24th independence anniversary was not held in the usual flamboyant manner. The country is going through a seething phase, and we are all engaged in revamping an economy that had been mismanaged by the previous adminstration. In such a situation, we cannot afford to fret away the little we have on clicking glasses and swinging anniversary parties. So we decided on a (?low-key) celebration and we told the world so.

For the British and American press to now begin to cook up stories of imaginary coups shows that they and the Nigerian fugitives in their midst may be up to something; however, Nigerians are alert and can deal with the enemies. This is because they have had enough and now want rest and peace of mind to pursue their lawful business in a peaceful atmosphere.

Finance Minister Says Foreign Debt at $20 Billion

AB201313 Paris AFP in English 0348 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Lagos, Nov 20 (AFP) — Nigeria's external debt stands at 20 billion dollars and the internal debt at some eight billion, Finance Minister Onalapo Soleye said here.

There were no problems in the medium and long term, he said, but the short-term debt was causing delicate problems. It consists mainly of arrears and delayed payments.

Nigeria is still discussing a 2.5 billion dollar loan with the International Monetary Fund, which is insisting on a devaluation of the naira of about 60 percent. The IMF also wants import liberalisation and the abolition of government subsidies on internal sales of oil products.

The government is understood to have accepted the principle of devaluation, with the times still to be decided. But officials are maintaining that liberalisation of imports would be unaccep-

table, and fear that an abrupt jump in the price of fuel would immediately boost inflation. The annual inflation rate for some years has been around 40 percent.

FMG Considers Setting Up Broadcasting Commission

AB201233 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 19 Nov 84

[Text] The Federal Military Government [FMG] is considering the setting up of a national broadcasting in the country. Under the system, rules and regulations governing broadcasting, as well as the code of conduct for the control of all radio and television stations, will be established. The chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Major General Tunde Idiagbon, stated this in Lagos yesterday during a Radio Nigeria public affairs program, "Matters of the Moment."

On the disposal of seized goods in government warehouses, Maj Gen Idiagbon said a committee has begun work on the evaluation of the goods from open market prices. He added that the pricelist, when ready, would guide each disposal committee in selling various items. Commenting on the illegal acquisition of wealth by businessmen during the last civilian regime, Maj Gen Idiagbon stated that all those who aided and abetted former public officials to plunder the nation's treasury would be made to pay for their unpatriotic acts. The chief of staff noted that the ongoing trial had revealed the extent to which some businessmen participated in looting the nation's treasury.

Agreement Signed With Consortium for 4 Airbuses

AB201855 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] An agreement for the purchase of four Airbus A-310 aircraft for Nigeria Airways was signed in Lagos yesterday between the Federal Government and a consortium of financial institutions from France, Britain, and West Germany. The agreement was signed by the minister of finance, Dr Onaolapo Soleye, and representatives of the financial institutions.

In his address, the minister described the agreement as a milestone in the development of the country's air transportation system. He urged the manufacturers of the aircraft to ensure provision of necessary backup services for the efficient operation of the aircraft. Dr Soleye stated that facilities for servicing the aircraft should be established in Nigeria as soon as possible for the full realization of the goal for which the agreement was signed. According to the terms of the agreement, Nigeria Airways will take delivery of two of the four airbuses on 14 December and the remaining 2 next years.

New Incentives for Large-Scale Farmers Announced

AB201236 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] The Federal Government has announced new incentives for large-scale farmers. They include duty-free importation of agricultural machinery and equipment, low interest rates for agricultural loans of between 6 and 7 percent, as well as long moratorium of up 5 years in case of tree crops and (?cattle breeding).

The minister of agriculture, water resources, and rural development, Dr Bukar Shuaibu, explained this in Lagos while addressing the fourth meeting of the Nigeria-U.S. Joint Agricultural Consultative Committee. Dr Shuaibu said that an agricultural insurance scheme will soon be introduced while the agricultural credit guaranty scheme will be extended. The minister stated that an agricultural investment bureau will also be set up in central planning department of the ministry to provide information and guidance to large-scale private farmers and investors. The minister noted that new projects are taking off under the committee and expressed the hope that the current meeting would come up with concrete suggestions on how to solve problems facing the body. In an address, the chairman of the Nigerian chapter of the committee, Alhaji Liman Chiroma, said that the body was established to develop and improve agriculture.

SIERRA LEONE

Stevens on Possible Devaluation, Morocco

AB201830 Paris AFP in French 0929 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Freetown, 20 Nov (AFP) — The Government of Sierra Leone is waiting for the return from Washington of its finance minister, Abdulai Conteh, "to find out what the situation is before deciding on a possible devaluation," President Siaka Stevens of Sierra Leone disclosed on Monday. Mr Stevens, who was returning home from Addis Ababa where he attended the 20th OAU summit, stressed that "the IMF was trying to exert the same pressures it exerts on a big country like Nigeria" on Sierra Leone.

Finally, regretting the withdrawal of Morocco from the OAU, the Sierra Leonian president said that a majority of OAU member-states wished that this withdrawal would only be "temporary," since Morocco is "a founding member that has contributed much" to the pan-African organization.

TOGO

Liberian Leader Arrives for ECOWAS Conference

AB202135 Lome Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Excerpts] His Excellency General Samuel Doe, president of Liberia, arrived in Lome this morning within the framework of the seventh ordinary conference of ECOWAS heads of state and government. The conference will be held on 22 and 23 November. President Samuel Doe was welcomed upon his arrival at Tokoin International Airport by General Gnassingbe Eyadema, founding chairman of the Rally of Togolese People. Other ECOWAS heads of state are expected to arrive in our capital tomorrow, Wednesday, 21 November.

Report Assesses Southern Africa Food Situation

AB201258 Paris AFP in French 1301 GMT 15 Nov 84

[Text] Rome, 15 Nov (AFP) — Here is the food situation in southern Africa as presented in the FAO sixth report last Tuesday:

— Angola: 8 million inhabitants (including 22 percent in the cities). A total of 780,000 people have been moved from their villages because of the war or the drought and 100,000 refugees from Namibia, Zaire, and South Africa are living in the country. The needs in the form of cereals aid for 1984-85 are estimated at 85,000 tons (importation — 217,000 tons) as against 68,000 tons in 1983-84.

— Botswana: 1 million inhabitants (4 percent in the cities). The 1984 cereal production was 8,000 tons [figures as received] compared with 60,000 tons in normal times. The rate of malnutrition among children under 5 years is high, and death-rate among the cattle is considerable. The needs for 1984-85 (July-June) are estimated at 43,000 tons of cereals compared with 37,000 tons in 1983-84.

— Lesotho: 1.5 million inhabitants (with 13 percent in the cities). The cereal production fell to 140,000 tons in 1984 from 216,000 tons in normal times. The government believes that a vast section of the population will need food aid until the end of the first semester in 1985. Food aid needs are estimated at 70,000 tons (45,000 tons in 1983-84).

— Mozambique: 14 million inhabitants (9 percent in the cities). The drought has caused 3.2 million victims in the northern Province of Tete. There are many famine and aphthous fever hotbeds. An epidemic of rinderpest is prevalent along the country's border with Tanzania. Many inhabitants emigrate to the cities and into Zimbabwe. The health situation is bad. The food aids needed for 1984-85 (May-April) are estimated at 575,000 tons, 329,000 of which go to rural dwellers suffering from famine. Hardly 168,000 tons were delivered by late September.

— Tanzania: 21 million inhabitants (13 percent in the cities). The food production, which was higher than last year's, remains poor in the center and in the north and inferior to normal, 2,500 tons [figure as received]. For 1984-85 (June-May) the needs in term of food aid are estimated at 256,000 tons (181,000 tons in 1983-84). So far the donor countries have pleged 92,000 tons. The transportation network in the country is insufficient and insects have destroyed certain regions.

— Zimbabwe: 8 million inhabitants (24 percent in the cities). The corn production is estimated at 1.4 million tons, with an increase over the 1983 production, but this is still 25 percent inferior to the normal production. Some 800,000 tons of wheat is expected, which is half the normal production. The pasture land is in a bad state. Death-rate among the cattle is high. The needs in terms of food aid are estimated at 140,000 in 1984-85 (April-March), of which 78,000 tons have already been delivered.

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Appoints New Ambassador to Zaire

MB210813 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 21 Nov 84

[Text] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the People's Republic of Angola, appointed a new ambassador to the Republic of Zaire in a decree issued yesterday. The new ambassador appointed by the Angolan head of state is Comrade Miguel Gaspar Neto, who will exercise the functions of ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of Angola in that neighboring country.

Commentary Calls Tribalism 'Enemy Weapon'

MB201722 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Station commentary: "The Unity of the People and the Nation"]

[Text] One of the main weapons used by the enemies of the people to better serve their own interests is, without any doubt, tribalism. In Angola, the people have suffered seriously from the tribal and regional intrigues set up by colonialism, with a view to ruling more effectively and diluting the unity that was necessary to overthrow that oppressive system.

In fact, the history of our people's struggle against Portuguese colonialism is rich with examples of attempts at division, based on preconceived tribal theories. Cleverly taking advantage of the low cultural level of the majority of the people, among other factors, through classical methods of division colonialism created the tactic of pitting the people of the south against the people of the north, the people of the center against the people of the south, and vice versa. As a result of this divisionist practice, the oppressing enemy managed to drag over to their side many compatriots in various parts of the country. They, in turn, used their influence on a certain segment of the population, thus undermining unity, which is necessary to start the victorious struggle for the building of a free fatherland.

Despite colonialist intrigues, the process of national liberation managed to attract the commitment of thousands of compatriots from various parts of the country who understood the true essence of the colonial objectives, hidden among false concepts. The Angolan people gradually became aware of the need for cohesion in their midst, and this principle led to the conquest of national independence.

Today, as a free and independent state, the People's Republic of Angola is engaged in effectively uniting all the people, from the Cabinda River to the Cunene River, and it will never allow any type of division whatsoever, be it tribal, regional, racial, or religious.

Constituted under the aegis of national unity, Neto's fatherland aims at uniting the people as a whole, for only in this way will it realize the objectives that it intends to attain in the political,

economic, and social fields. National unity is thus a battle of unquestioned importance within Angola's borders.

This struggle becomes all the more important if we consider Angola is a vast state where there are populations with their own particular characteristics based on different languages, customs, and habits. Thus, it is fundamental that the people unite about the common cause of defense of the revolutionary gains and the building of a fatherland bent toward caring for everyone's most elementary needs.

However, our people's enemies, using the old trick of division in order to rule more effectively, morally and materially support puppet groups who have developed a tribal and regional campaign in addition to conducting terrorist actions aimed at unprotected civilian populations, and destroying economic centers of utmost importance in the strengthening of the national unity, and have alerted the people not to collaborate with the nation's enemies, who are committed to spreading division through propaganda campaigns intentionally aimed at certain regions of Angola.

In his speech during the main ceremony of the 9th anniversary of the proclamation of independence celebrations in Uige City, Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the party and head of government, referred to national unity at length. At one point in his speech, he said that the unity of the people as a whole from the Cabinda River to the Cunene River must be defended with the same vigor with which we defend our borders.

The principles of unity that (?lead) the people for the struggle in all sectors of Angola's life, under the leadership of the MPLA-Labor Party, are to be applied forever. Furthermore, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos stressed that the enemy will attempt to divide us whenever it has the opportunity, but the conscious attitude of patriotic Angolans oppose this. We have to hold before the people and history our responsibilities and specify the side we are on: either in favor of or against the people. We will combat all those who may be against our people. We will energetically combat all those who may attempt to divide our people and our party.

These guidelines from the country's supreme leader should be followed by all Angolans who support real development and progress by the Angolan nation. Our cause will triumph only if we are strongly united. United as one individual we shall never be defeated by whatever weapons the enemies of our people might use.

BOTSWANA

Masire Discusses OAU at Press Conference

MB201620 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1110 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Following his return from the 20th summit of the OAU in Addis Ababa, the president, Dr Quett Masire, has commented on a number of issues raised at the summit at a press conference held at Radio Botswana this morning.

Dr Quett Masire said that although Morocco walked out of the summit, protesting against the participation of the SDAR, the member states were hopeful that Morocco would reconsider its position. He said Morocco walked out in a fit of anger and could, on second thought, prefer OAU membership to isolation. Dr Masire said, unlike in the previous occasions when Morocco left the OAU summit in protest, there was no flamboyant demonstration of the walkout. Instead, Morocco explained its position to the other member states to show that it owed courtesy to the other members.

Responding to a question, Dr Masire said to the best of his knowledge the new chairman of the OAU, Mwalimu Julius Nyerere of Tanzania, did not advise the summit to refuse to pay their external debt in order to exert pressure on creditor nations to readjust Africa's payment schedule. Dr Masire interpreted President Nyerere as having said that African countries may appear to be refusing to pay because they are fast moving to a situation where the willingness to pay cannot be demonstrated because of a lack of capacity to do so. He was supported in this view by External Affairs Minister Dr Gaositwe Chiepe, who said President Nyerere might have been misinterpreted at a press conference he held after the summit.

Dr Masire also told the press that the OAU summit had formed a reconciliation committee headed by Congo, Brazzaville, which will try to reconcile the various factions in Chad estimated at 120 by one speaker and 160 by another during the summit. [sentence as heard]

Turning to issues in Botswana, Dr Masire said the nation must be disturbed by the personality attacks and acrimonious statements made at political rallies, which were not typical of the freedom of expression enjoyed in Setswana culture. Stating that he would not apportion blame at this stage, Dr Masire said political opponents were not prepared to listen to one another. He said there was a lot of uncalled for noise at meetings, which was not only discourteous to the speaker, but to the other listeners as well. As a result, those disturbed would want to get their own back on their opponents by disrupting their meetings.

Answering more questions, Dr Masire said that the mystery surrounding the ballot box discovered in Gaborone after the 8 September elections was still being investigated. He said when investigations have been concluded he would report to the nation. But President Masire was firm that he could not apportion blame before the investigations were concluded.

Earlier on, the editor of the *BOTSWANA GUARDIAN*, Mr (Kgosi Nkomuetsi) had told the president that although his paper, as the watchdog of the nation, was obviously aggressive in its language, the *GUARDIAN* was nonpartisan. Dr Masire questioned if the *GUARDIAN*, by adopting such an aggressive stand, was doing Botswana a service in promoting a party of the paper's choice. The president said that no matter how many times the government might explain its position, the *BOTSWANA GUARDIAN*, as its editor admitted, remains aggressive and never (?hurt) the truth.

MOZAMBIQUE

Crocker, Machel Discuss Namibia Issue

Crocker Arrives for Talks

MB201202 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] The U.S. assistant secretary of state for African affairs, Chester Crocker, is in Mozambique on the latest stage of a diplomatic shuttle. Dr Crocker was met at Maputo airport this morning by Mozambican Deputy Foreign Minister Jose Carlos Lobo. He then left for talks in the Foreign Ministry, and a meeting was also scheduled between Dr Crocker and President Samora Machel. The U.S. envoy is expected to leave Mozambique this afternoon.

Dr Crocker's present tour has already taken him to South Africa, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. Reports say the main topic in his discussions in these countries was the new Angolan proposals for bringing Namibia to independence and ending aggression against Angola.

The Angolan proposals, made earlier this month, include the complete withdrawal of South African troops from Angola, an end to South African support for the UNITA terrorists, the dismantling of UNITA bases in Namibia, and the implementation of UN Resolution 435 on Namibia. Angola says that after UN troops are installed in Namibia and when the South African military presence in Namibia is reduced to 1,500 infantry soldiers, a gradual withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola could be considered.

Sam Nujoma, the president of the Namibian liberation movement, SWAPO, had a meeting in Lusaka on Sunday with Dr Crocker. Afterwards, Mr Nujoma told reporters that Dr Crocker had said he discussed Angola's proposals with the South African authorities last week and was now carrying South African counterproposals. This would be delivered to Angola. However, Mr Nujoma said, as far as SWAPO was concerned there had been no concrete progress toward the peaceful decolonization of Namibia. Dr Crocker also had a meeting in Zambia with President Kenneth Kaunda and in Zimbabwe he met Prime Minister Robert Mugabe.

Crocker Talks To Reporters

MB210644 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0400 GMT 21 Nov 84

[Text] Chester Crocker, U.S. assistant secretary of state for African affairs, left Maputo yesterday for Pretoria after a brief visit to Mozambique during which he held talks with Samora Machel, the Mozambican head of state; Joaquim Chissano, foreign minister; and other leaders.

Shortly before leaving Maputo, Crocker told journalists that his visit's objective had been to consult and exchange views on the latest developments relating to the Namibian issue. According to Chester Crocker, he and President Samora Machel had informed each other of the progress of that process.

The situation in southern Africa in general, the situation in Mozambique, and the relations between Mozambique and South Africa, and the bilateral relations between Mozambique and the United States in particular were issues which were also discussed at the talks between the Mozambican leaders and Chester Crocker.

In a recent interview given to a British magazine, *AFRICA NOW*, Chester Crocker referred to alleged talks between the Mozambican government and the armed bandits, which had resulted in an accord of principle. A Mozambican journalist told Crocker that such talks had never taken place and he asked the U.S. diplomat if his statement had been intended to put pressure on the Mozambican Government to hold negotiations with the armed bandits. Crocker did not answer the question, but said, in his words, that the South African Government had been asked to facilitate a cease-fire in Mozambique. In our view, it is very urgent that peace should be achieved and we completely support these efforts with a view to securing a climate of peace, Chester Crocker added.

The U.S. assistant secretary of state for African affairs was asked whether his country could perform an active role in the search for peace in Mozambique. To this he answered: "It is true that we have a role. That is why we are here. That is why we are talking with our friends in the Mozambican Government, and we are also talking with South Africa, and we intend to continue to do so.

Returns to RSA

MB201420 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1400 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] The U.S. assistant secretary of state for African affairs, Chester Crocker, left a while ago for South Africa. He will then return to the United States. Chester Crocker had arrived in Maputo this morning from Harare, where he discussed questions related to the independence of Namibia.

Early this afternoon, President Samora Machel received the U.S. assistant secretary of state for African affairs. Chester Crocker had been received this morning by Minister of Foreign Affairs Joaquim Chissano. It is believed that these meetings also dealt with the question of Namibian independence.

Renamo Official Comments on Supplies, Unity

MB202030 London BBC World Service in English 1709 GMT 20 Nov 84

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] There are conflicting claims once again about the state of the guerrilla war in Mozambique, following the breakdown of the cease-fire talks in Pretoria. The talks followed the Nkomati Accord, under which South Africa was supposed to withdraw support for the rebels, but the guerrillas have stepped up their

activities, especially around the capital, Maputo. They claim to have the upper hand and say that the government is divided.

On the line to Lisbon, Jim Fish asked [the Mozambique] National Resistance Movement's [Renamo] European representative, Evo Fernandes, about the position; was it now war to the bitter end?

[Begin recording] [Fernandes] We have already increased the level of war and Maputo today is encircled. The situation in Maputo is so bad they are very near to collapse. Then they must — and they have to — come to the negotiating table to discuss with us.

[Fish] In order for Renamo to be pursuing the war, as you claim you are doing so successfully, surely you must be receiving a lot of material aid still from South Africa?

[Fernandes] Why from South Africa? I could accept the first part of your declaration, but why from South Africa? Why do you say that we are receiving material from South Africa, if Machel has already said that the Government of South Africa is fulfilling the Nkomati Accord, by letter and by spirit?

[Fish] Now, you have also accused, you have said that the Machel government is internally divided, and this is one of the reasons why they cannot come to talk to you face to face. What do you mean by that?

[Fernandes] There are people in the Maputo government that do not accept to continue the negotiations with us. There are other people who support these talks, and if there are so many problems — internal problems — in the Maputo governemnt, if they are discussing with us and at the same time they are saying that they are not discussing with us, I think that there is a lot of confusion in the government. If the government is confused, it is not worthwhile to continue to discuss with it.

[Fish] Is it not also true that your own organization may also be deeply divided internally?

[Fernandes] This is Frelimo propaganda, because till today there is no division in our organization, and you have already seen through the newspapers and by TV that the president and the secretary general were present when discussing the (?matter) with the South Africans. And the secretary general has — still has — the full support from the organization and from the president. [end recording]

Evo Fernandes of Renamo in Lisbon.

So, according to the rebels, President Machel is practically on his knees and Maputo is surrounded by rebels and cut off. But, according to our Maputo correspondent Lois Browne, that claim seems to be a little exaggerated. She cabled us this report:

Journalists here can find no evidence that traffic has been unduly affected in recent weeks by rebel activity. A spokesman for the Oliveira bus company, which runs buses daily into Gaza Province, along the main north-south highway, and the twice-weekly bus to Swaziland, said the traffic is normal. Buses and private vehicles on the road between Maputo and the South African border now have a military escort available, but there is reportedly still a fair amount of unescorted traffic. There is also a military escort through the district of Marracuene, north of Maputo, for a distance of about 30 km. Although attacks on rail and road traffic still occur, there has been no perceptible change in their intensity in recent weeks.

The day after the rebels issued their claim to have besieged Maputo, Swazi railways said they were still running three trains a day to the Mozambican capital.

Yesterday, an official with the Mozambican railways said that the rebel claim to have stopped traffic was untrue. The claim by the Mozambique National Resistance came just after the Mozambique media had published eyewitness accounts of more than half a dozen massacres around the country in the last 2 weeks of October.

However, the only news reaching Maputo that indicates any advance by the rebels is in the northermost province of Cabo Delgado. The MNR [Renamo] first entered the province in force in late July, but they appeared to settle in the southern part. They have now moved north near the town of Mueda, and have blown up one of seven pipes that carry water to the Mueda plateau. But a person who recently arrived in Maputo from Mueda said that another MNR claim that they had captured Mueda town was not true.

NAMIBIA

Six Killed in Landmine Incidents

MB201648 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] An Ovambo family of four were killed in southern Angola when their vehicle detonated a landmine. Our correspondent at Oshakati reports that the incident occurred as the family was returning from a wedding. Mr (Thomas Zacharia), his wife (Luede) and their two children were returning to the (Ukwanyama) tribal area in Ovambo.

In another incident in Ovambo, two civilians were killed this morning, and three injured, when their vehicle detonated a landmine. The explosion occurred 11 km from the Angolan border on the main road from Oshikango to Ondangwa in Ovambo.

SOUTH AFRICA

Statement Issued on Namibia Talks With U.S.

MB201913 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] The Department of Foreign Affairs says in a statement issued in Pretoria that the South African Government is in the process of negotiating with the United States on the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola.

It said that, as already indicated, the South African reply to the latest Angolan proposals had been conveyed to the American assistant secretary of state for African affairs, Dr Chester Crocker. The South African and American Governments had also agreed not to disclose details of current discussions and negotiations.

Cuba May Sign Agreement

MB201532 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1500 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] The official communist newspaper in Havana, *GRANMA*, reports that the Cuban Government is prepared to sign an agreement with South Africa, Angola, and SWAPO on the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola. The agreement will be based on proposals made earlier by President Eduardo dos Santos of Angola. The newspaper emphasized however, that the withdrawal would not begin until South Africa has reduced its forces in South-West Africa to 1,500 men. It also said that Cuba would not withdraw its troops from all of Angola.

The newspaper said the Cuban withdrawal would only begin 4 to 8 months after the arrival of the United Nations military force in South-West Africa. It said Cuban troops stationed in Cabinda and Luanda would not be affected by the withdrawal.

A senior official for the Department of Foreign Affairs in Pretoria told our news staff that South Africa had no knowledge of the proposed agreement and for this reason he was unable to comment. Diplomatic sources say, however, that President Santos mentioned such an agreement at the recent OAU conference.

Freed UNITA Hostages To Arrive in Johannesburg

MB210808 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0802 GMT 21 Nov 84

[Text] Pretoria, Nov 21, SAPA — A group of between 10 and 12 freed UNITA hostages left southern Angola by air and should arrive at Johannesburg's Jan Smuts Airport about 1 pm today, a spokesman for Red Cross International in South Africa, has confirmed.

Three Bulgarians set free 12 days ago by UNITA leader Dr Jonas Savimbi at a public parade at his rebel headquarters, Jamba, are among the group, and the rest are thought to be Portuguese.

Mr Philipple Contessa, of Red Cross International, said details at this stage were very sketchy. "We have sent an aircraft to fetch them, but until they arrive we won't know exactly how many or who they are." The three Bulgarians are Mr Manuel Milanov Constantinov, Miss Lazarina Saprinova Gimitrova, and Miss Catarina Constantinova Stoianova, who were captured by UNITA guerillas on March 25 this year in an attack on the government-held town of Novo Redondo in the Cuanza Sul Province of Angola.

Heunis Comments on PFP Move To Admit All Races

MB210712 Umtata Capital Radio in English
0600 GMT 21 Nov 84

[Text] The government has broken its silence on the official opposition's decision to integrate membership. The Progressive Federal Party [PFP] decided at the weekend to allow people of all races to join the party. The immeditate response of Constitutional Planning Minister Chris Heunis was a firm, no comment. Now Heunis has spoken out.

He has warned that the Prohibition of Political Interference Act, which forbids mixed political parties, is part of the law enforced in South Africa and as such should be adhered to. Heunis says certain deductions have been made from his earlier comment on the PFP decision, which did nor reflect his intention, but he has hinted the situation could change. He says mixed party membership is an obviously sensitive issue, and should be treated in a way that ensures that participating parties can reach concensus on possible amendments to the act.

Trade Union Group Rejects Worker Stay-Away Call

MB201400 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1300 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] South Africa's largest trade union grouping has dissociated itself from calls for a stay-away later this month. The Federation of South African Trade Unions, FOSATU, says it has nothing to do with rumors that another work boycott has been called for 26 November.

FOSATU's general secretary, (Joe Foster), has issued a statement saying there has been no mandate from any of the organizations that participated in the successful stay-away in the Transvaal on the 5th and 6th [of November], and he is convinced another stay-away would only weaken the unity achieved then. The statement says whoever is calling for a stay-away is deliberately trying to provoke a chaotic situation to give the government an excuse to ban or detain more people.

FOSATU calls on government to give a categoric assurance that none of its security services are in any way involved in the call.

SABC Comments on Government Maintenance of Order

MB191430 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1413 GMT 19 Nov 84

["SABC (South African Broadcasting Corporation) Current Affairs"]

[Text] Johannesburg, Nov 19 — It is no coincidence that in a period of historically unprecedented reform in South Africa, the country should also be subject to outbreaks of violent unrest. Any society that undertakes adaptations to meet changing circumstances experiences the phenomenon of increased tension. It is the inevitable product of rising expectations on the one hand and, on the other, a fearful resistance to change. Often, and certainly in South Africa, that natural phenomenon is aggravated by the purposeful efforts of groups whose own goals are thwarted by

peaceful reform — groups for whom mass dissatisfaction is a necessary condition for promoting the revolution through which they hope to achieve power.

In those circumstances there is no more compelling obligation resting on the state than the maintenance of order. It is more than ever the essential underpinning for the conduct of good government and the pursuit of social justice. Every official action to remove a legitimate mass grievance reduces the revolutionary's prospects for success. At the least, therefore, such action must be discounted as meaningless. More usefully, it must if possible be undone by so polarizing society through alienation of its constituent groups that reason and mutual understanding give way to angry intransigence. And to achieve that it is necessary to create a climate of unrest — to intimidate the law-abiding, to engage in wanton attacks on people and property — ingeneral to create the illusion of a society irredeemable in its injustices, being rendered ungovernable by its irreconcilable differences.

The instigators of mass violence are playing for high stakes. For the state to respond with anything short of absolutely effective counter-measures would be gross negligence of its primary responsibility. Law and order must be maintained, and if the actions of those who would destroy all prosepcts for democratic and stable government dictate unconventional methods, then they must be used.

That obligation is not merely an end in itself. There are only two options in South Africa's political future. One is revolution. The other is reform, the continuous process of negotiating and implementing solutions to disputes in a manner that ensures that the fundamental demands of all groups are met. That process can succeed only if there is public order, if the people are secure in the protection offered by the law and its upholders and if democratically designated leaders are free to articulate their followers aspirations.

A determination to ensure that those conditions are met is the first requirement for maintaining a free and secure society.

ZIMBABWE

Visiting Saudi Prince Calls on President

MB201446 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] The visiting member of the Saudi Arabian royal family, Prince al-Walid 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, today paid a courtesy call on the president, Comrade Canaan Banana, at State House. The prince, who is on a 5-day private visit, is exploring means of cooperation and investment in Zimbabwe. He is expected to meet the prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, and other government ministers to explore areas which could be of interest to both countries.

Radio Truth Says ZANU-PF Murdered Ndlovu

MB201013 (Clandestine) Radio Truth in English to Zimbabwe 0430 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Radio Truth has warned its listeners that ZANU-PF would stop at nothing to try and win the next general elections. We forecast that the ruling party would employ any devious tactic and every dirty trick to achieve their objectives. Recent events have confirmed that the promises of a free and fair election will not be honored. We can now dismiss that vain hope. The government and its agencies are hell-bent upon softening up and destroying all signs of opposition. The circumstances surrounding the tragic death of Senator Moven Ndlovu have confirmed our worst fears. This brutal killing has been and will continue to be used for a further murderous assult against the helpless Ndebele people and the members of ZAPU in particular.

In premeditated fashion, the prime minister has laid the blame on ZAPU for the senator's untimely death. The information at our disposal reveals a very different story. Reliable sources at Beitbridge maintain that the senator was murdered by ZANU-PF agents. Three of these thugs, who have been specially trained by the North Koreans at the Empress Mine Camp in the Kwe Kwe District, had spent some days in Beitbridge. They were entertained by members of the Youth Brigade and disappeared immediately after the murder. Joshua Nkomo himself described the tragic event as an internal party killing by members of ZANU-PF.

The local ZANU-PF Youth Brigade initiated the rumor that Senator Ndlovu had been murdered by dissident members of ZAPU. They deliberately provoked the subsequent riots. Members of the youth wing, backed up by armed national militia, burned several homes and shops and attacked ZAPU supporters with clubs and stones. Town residents said that at least five people were burned to death after being pushed into the local ZAPU office as it went up in flames. Some 200 people are known to have been injured. Moreover, this display of mob violence was not an isolated incident. ZANU-PF youth gangs had been roaming the suburbs of Beitbridge and beating up ZAPU supporters for several weeks. Tension had been building up in the town for some time due to ZAPU's much stronger showing in local elections.

Therein lies one of the reasons why Moven Ndlovu was chosen as a target. ZANU-PF had been smarting from their humiliating defeat in the elections for the Bulawayo city council and other local authorities in Matabeleland. The senator had become unpopular with provincial ZANU-PF officials for sadly underestimating the strength of the opposition party in his area. The ruling regime determined that it had to show its extreme displeasure at the election results. The Ndebele nation must be effectively intimidated once and for all.

So ZANU-PF engineered a political murder of a prominent person in Matabeleland. This gave them an excuse to unleash their bully boys and set them off on the usual wild rampage. This gives the impression of a lawless situation and provides another opportunity to bring in government troops for yet another round of harrassment, torture, killing, and general intimidation.

There was another reason for selecting Senator Ndlovu as the victim. He tended to favor a multi-party rather than a one-party state. In addition, he felt that socialism must be voluntarily adopted by the people and should not be forced on them. In other words, he was not truly committed to ZANU-PF policy. Prime Minister Mugabe has added fuel to the fire and, in the process, revealed the true intent of his party.

At the funeral service he blamed ZAPU for the killing and threatened severe reprisals. In typical fashion his observation was made before the police had completed their investigation. In highly emotional language calculated to stir violent reaction from his supporters, he castigated ZAPU and maintained that he will now demonstrate that his own party can bite. He announced that he would deploy additional troops to suppress the outlaws. There was, of course, no mention and no condemnation of the mob violence of his own youth wing.

In a tearful portion of his speech, Mr Mugabe claimed that his party and government had been patient and forgiving and had consistently appealed for peace and harmony. The trouble is that the prime minister's sentiments have not been matched by the appropriate actions. What signs of either patience of forgiveness were displayed by his own 5th Brigade when they embarked on their notorious campaign to wipe out as many Ndebele as possible under cover of antidissident operations? Where was the harmony when ZANU-PF went on the rampage in the Midlands?

Now we have the Ndlovu murder and another bout of undisciplined vengeance wreaked by the Youth Brigade before the facts of the case are even known. As a final retaliatory measure, a final nail has been put in the coffin of reconciliation. The last two ZAPU ministers in the Cabinet have been summarily sacked. Various members of the ZAPU Central Committee have been detained. How can free and fair elections take place if government troops are to be redeployed in strength in Matabeleland and youth are licenced to promote mob rule?

Another tactic employed by ZANU-PF is to break up political meetings organized by other parties. They have done this with ZAPU, UANC [United African National Council], and now ZAPU Muwenji. On 10 November, Mr Phineas Sithole, national chairman of ZAPU Muwenji, sought permission to hold a political meeting in Mucheke Township, Mazvingo. Permission was granted and the meeting was proceeding in an orderly manner when an organized gang of ZAPU-PF youth burst on to the scene. Throwing rocks, and wielding sticks, they attacked the innocent members of the opposition party.

In the ensuing clash, 10 members of Sithole's party and five of the invading youths were badly injured. Police arrived to break up the disturbance, but we have yet to hear if any charges have been laid. The voice of ZANU-PF leadership has been very muted in condemning the excesses of its youth movement. One must assume, therefore, that they condone such dirty tricks and regard them as all in a good cause. The blame for such outbreaks of disorder is always attributed to one or other of the opposition groups.

We at Radio Truth would advise everyone to abide strictly by the law. If you witness any criminal acts being committed by ZANU-PF members, report them immediately to the police. Officials of the ruling party may rely on the hope that you will be too frightened to report for fear of reprisal. We suggest that you go in a group to make your report, for the thugs prefer to deal only with individuals. This ZANU-PF intimidation has got to be stamped out before polling time comes around.